JUMP COMICS

●名前

NO.27

HUNTER × HUNTER

ハンター × ハンター

冨樫義博

DIGITAL

DIGITAL COLORED COMICS

27

SHUEISHA

JUMP COMICS

HUNTER × HUNTER

ハンター × ハンター

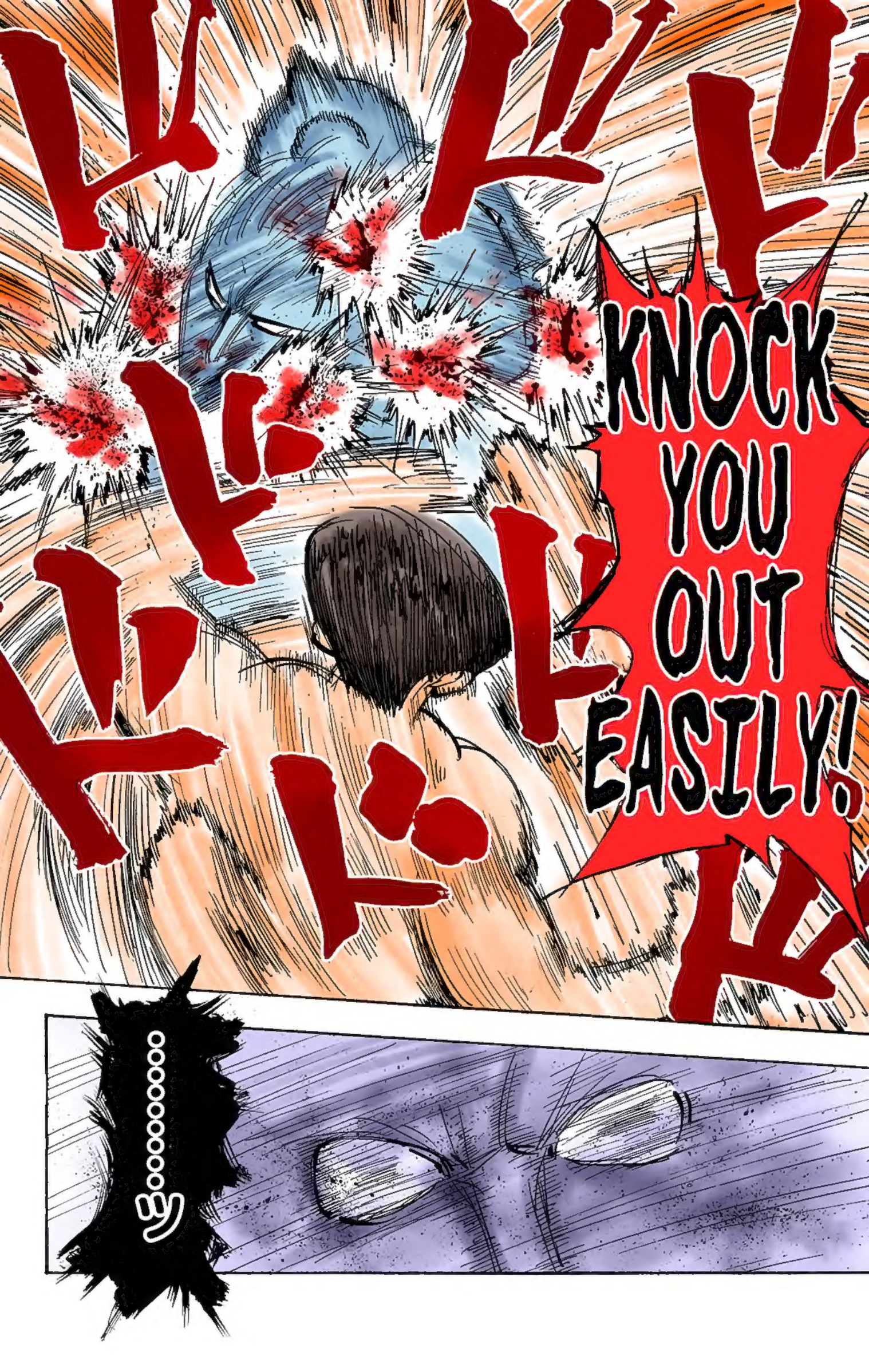
NO.27 名前

富樫義博

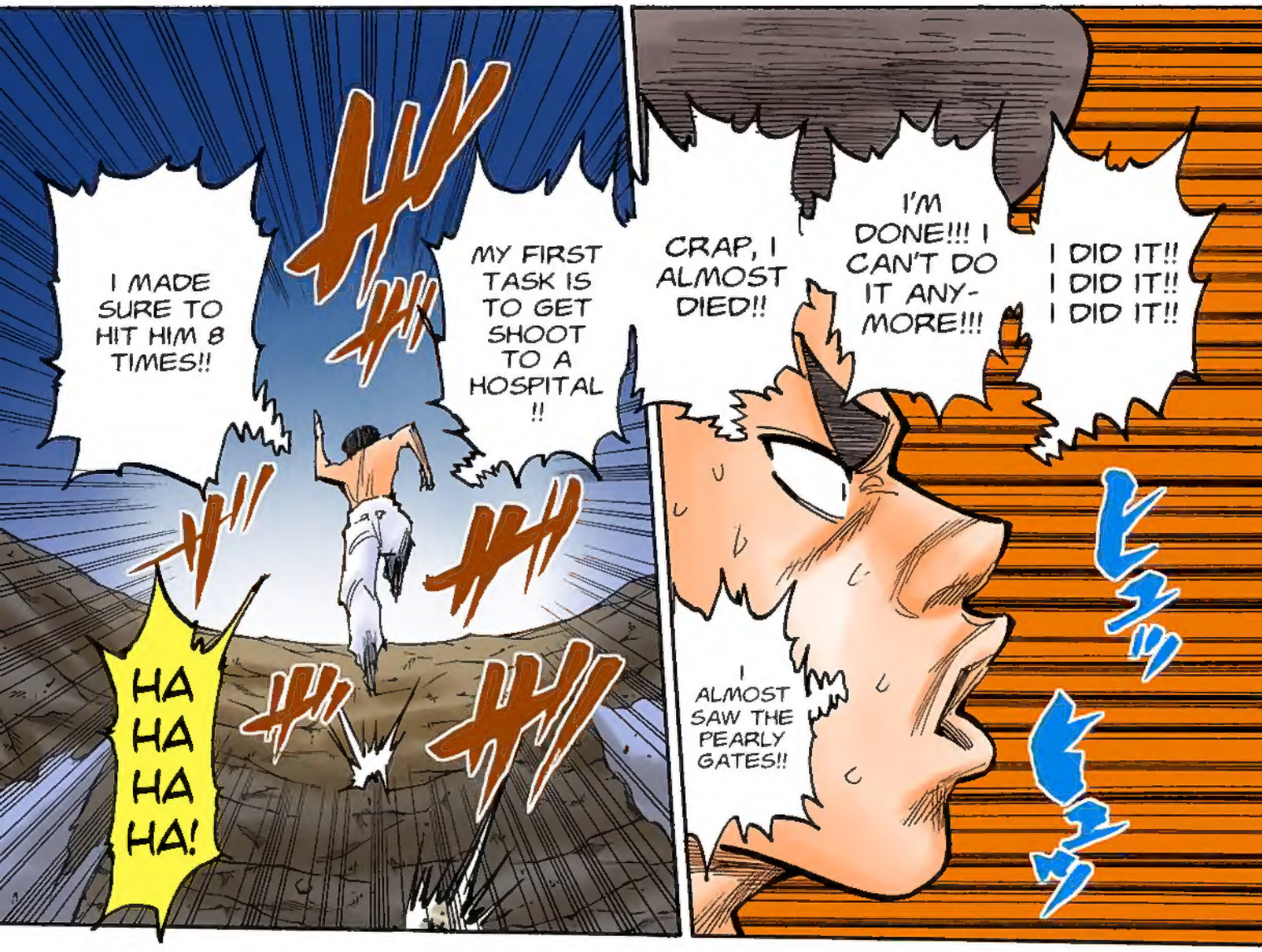
★This Work Is Based On The Author's Original Drawing In Addition To The Author's Color Orgininal Drawing This Is A Special Edition Version That Was Digitally Colored By Shueisha.

No.281 ◆ GODSPEED

HE'S COMPLETELY PARALYZED!!
LIGHTNING ...?!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!!
GRUAAAAH!
IF YOU'RE NOT ALL BIG AND TOUGH, I CAN...

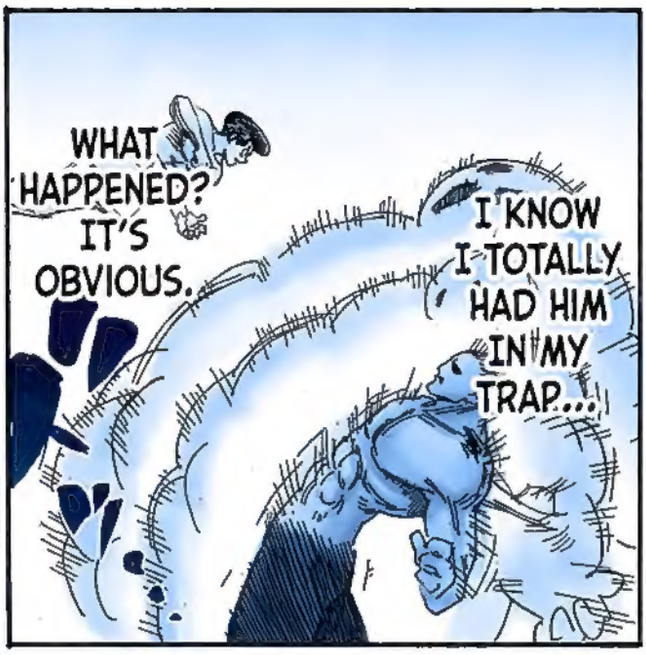

KNOCK YOU OUT EASILY!
Gooooooooo

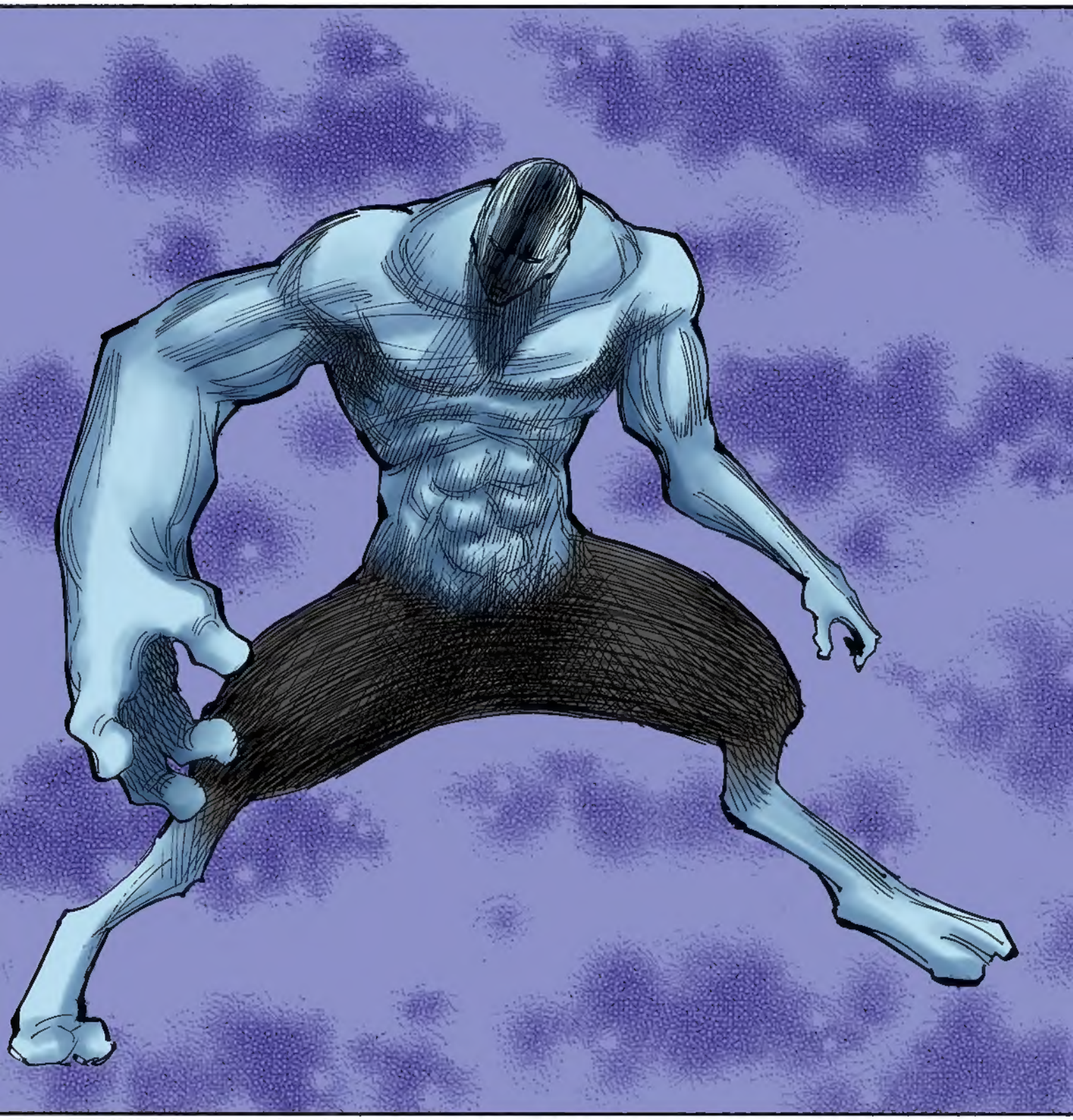
ドゴ
ザッ

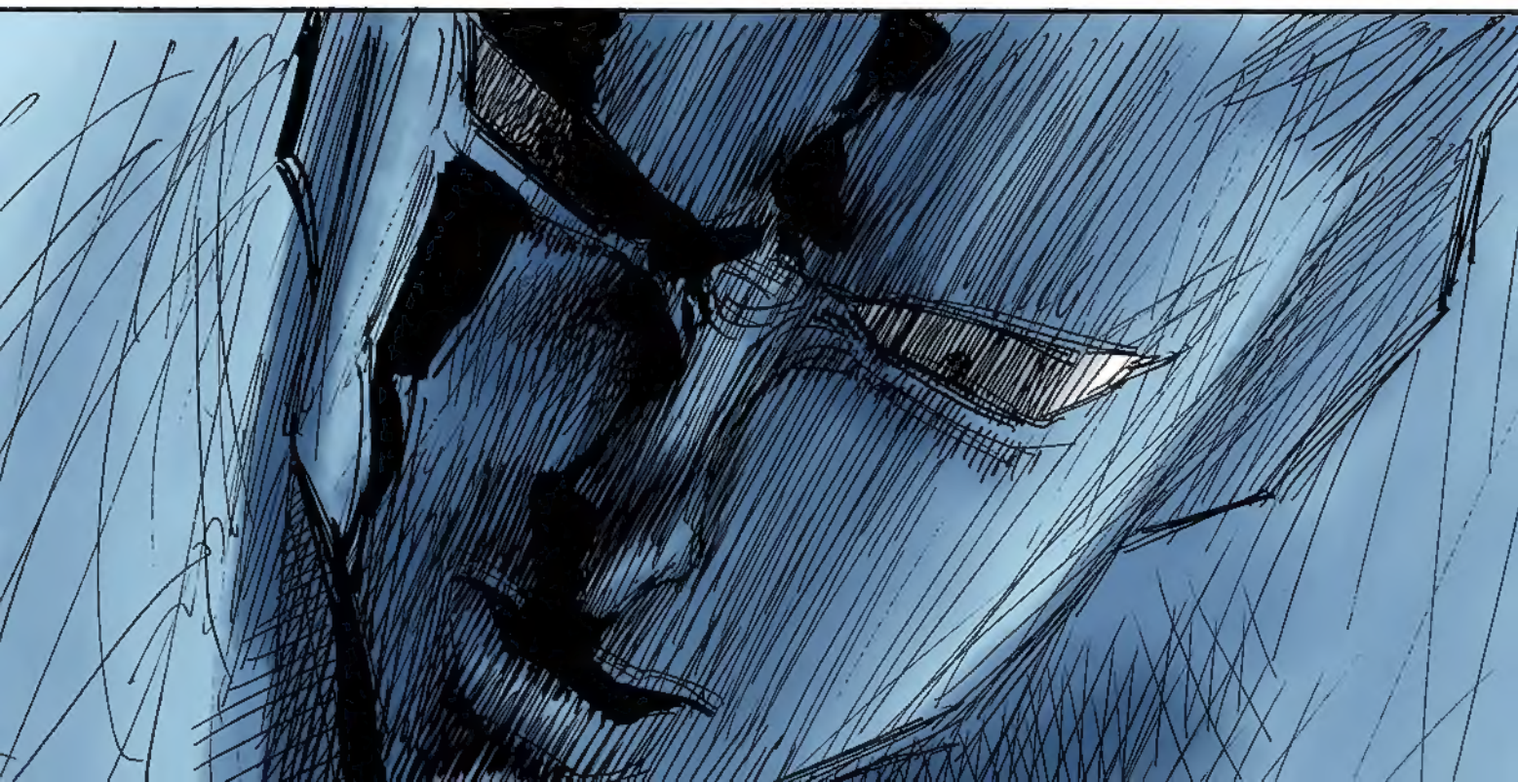


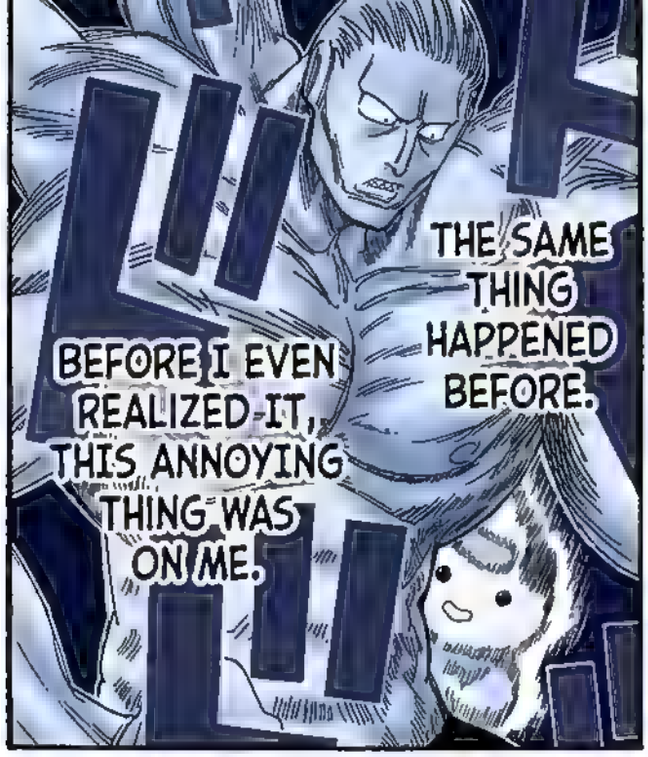
JUST HAPPENED...?

WHAT...

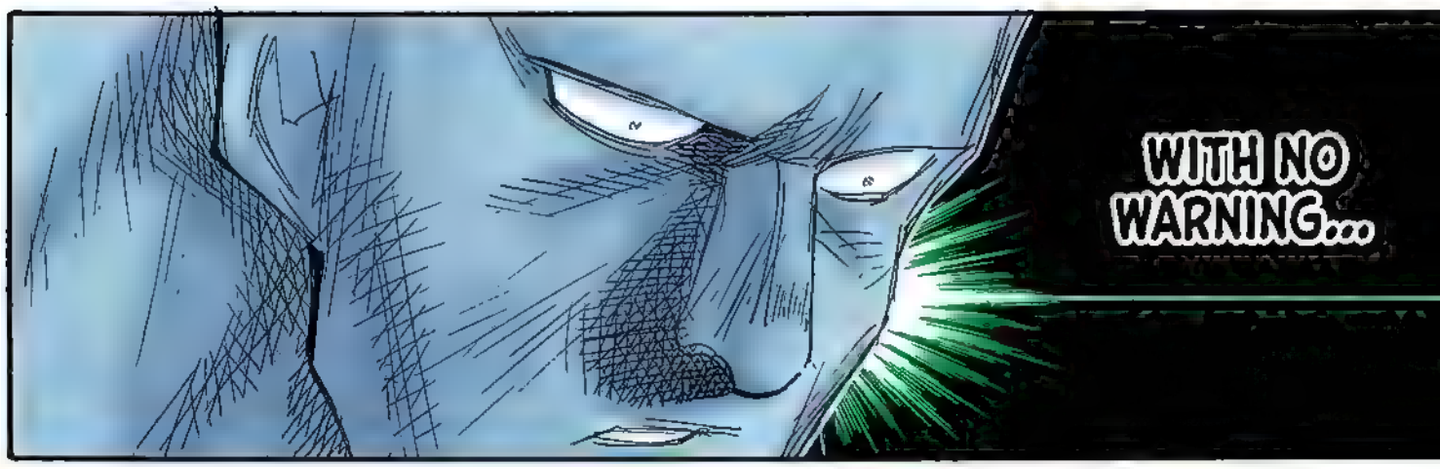


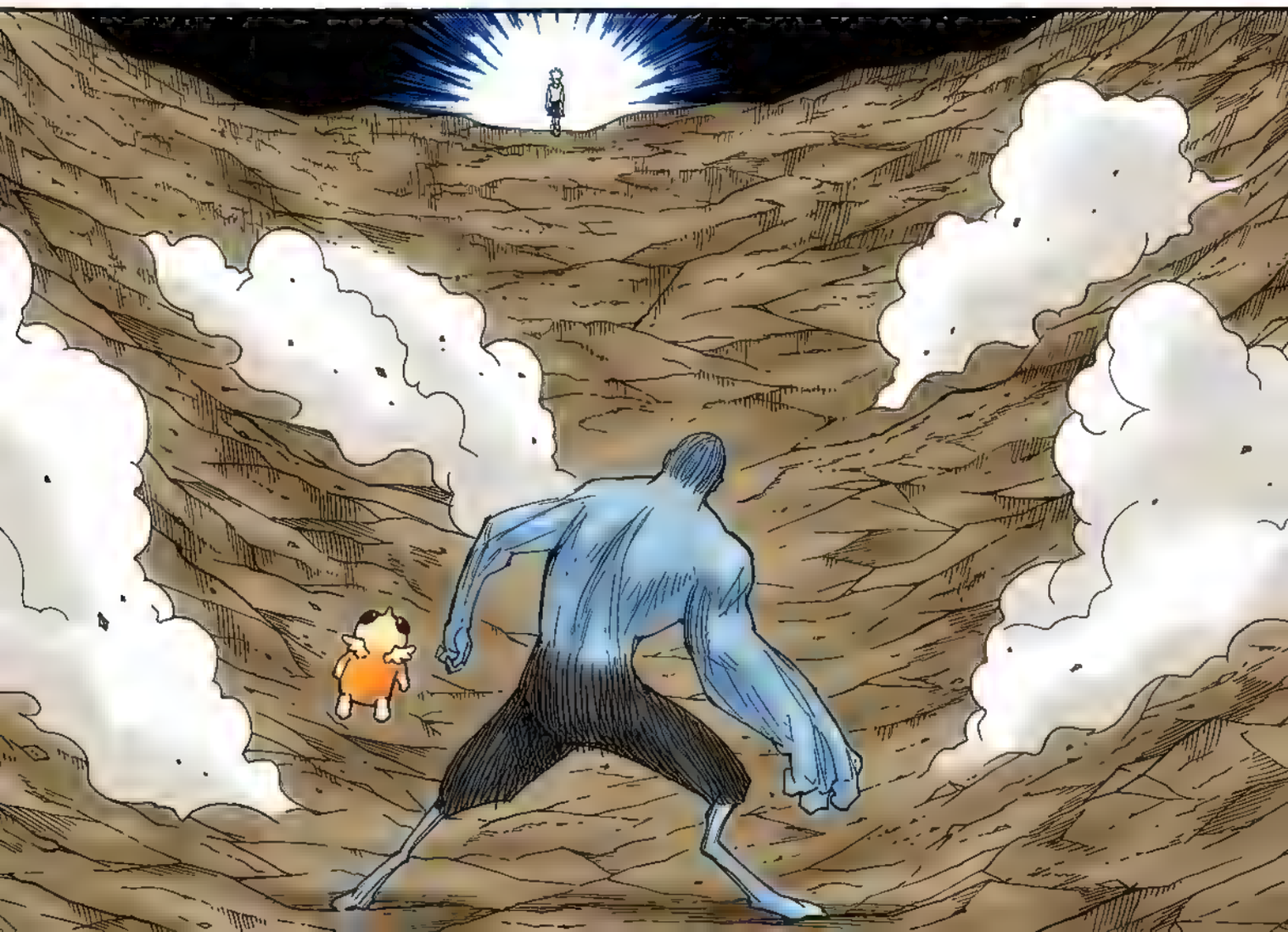


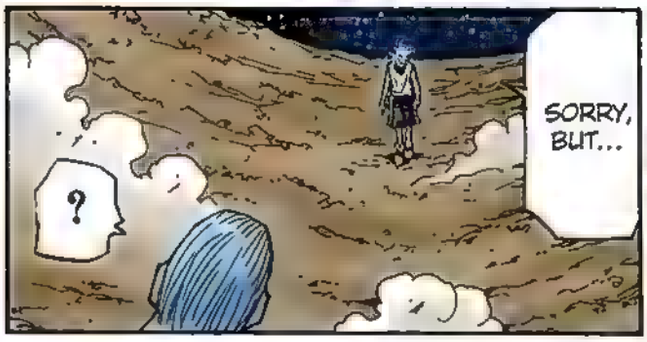


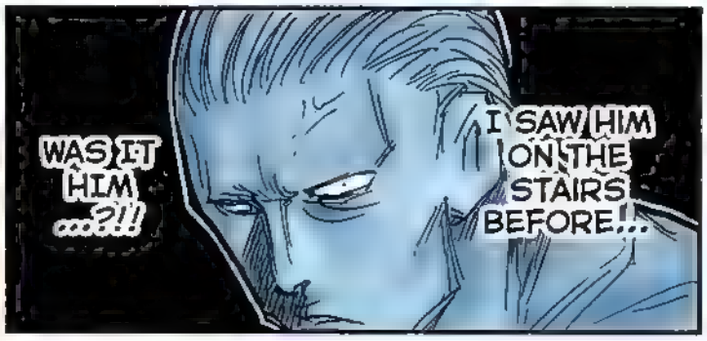

THE SAME THING HAPPENED BEFORE.
BEFORE I EVEN REALIZED IT, THIS ANNOYING THING WAS ON ME.

THAT I DIDN'T NOTICE A (PROBABLY) BOLT OF LIGHTNING THAT MASSIVE UNTIL IT WAS RIGHT OVER ME...?!!
IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?!


WITH NO WARNING...







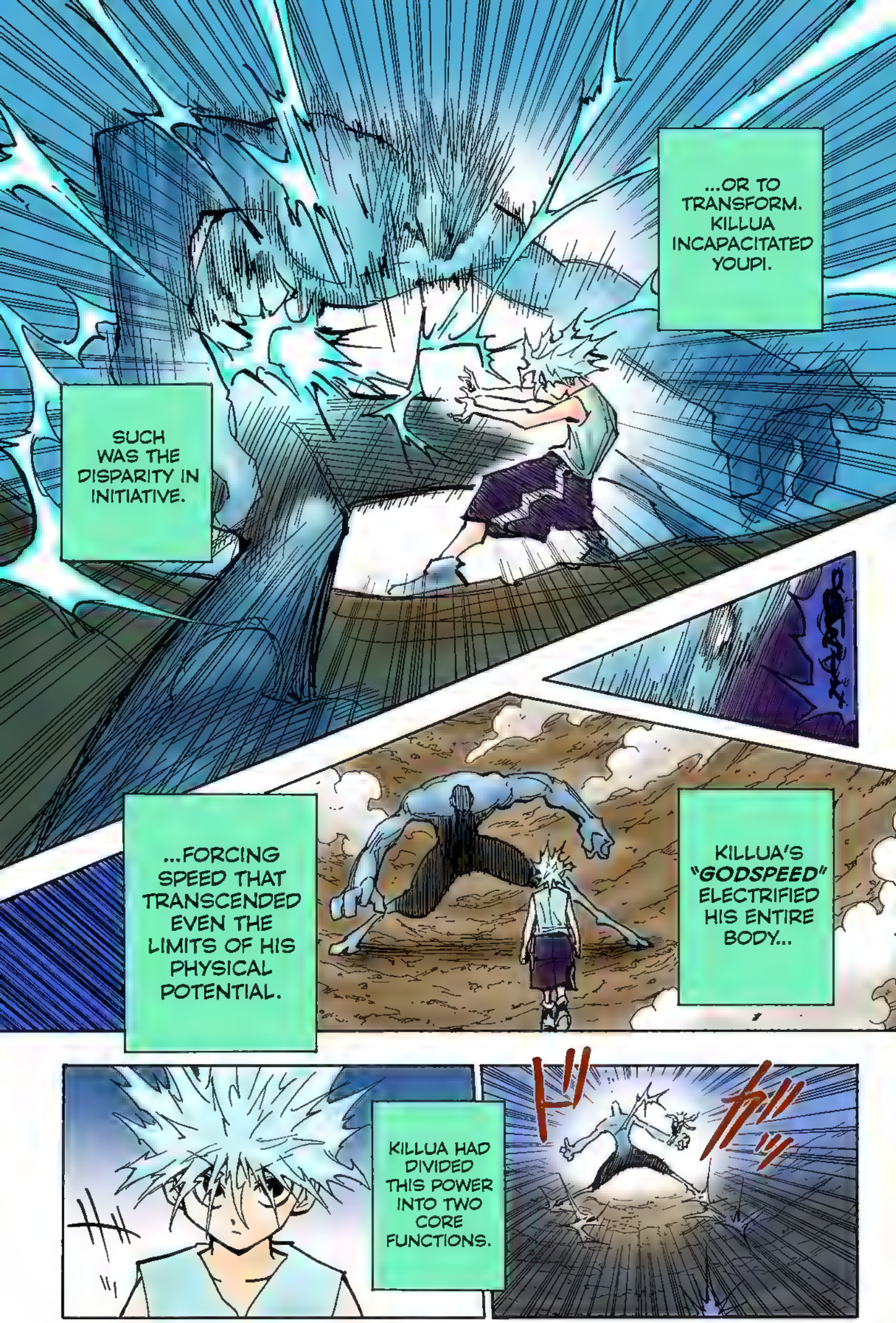
SO, I'M JUST GONNA TAKE IT ALL OUT ON YOU.

I'M A LITTLE PISSED OFF RIGHT NOW.

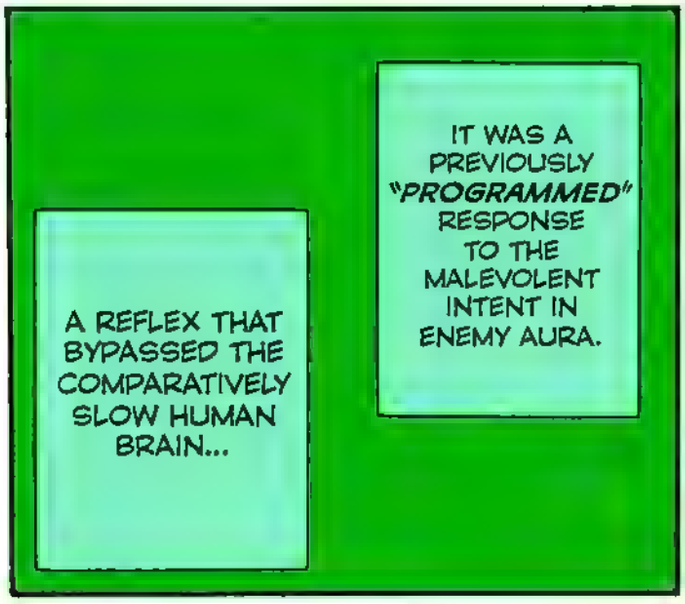
!!!
HE'S GONE-

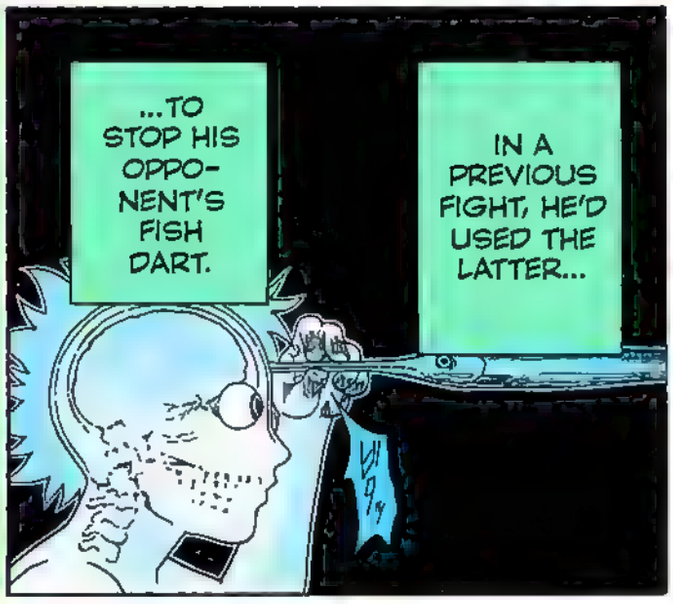
RAH

GUH...
"GODS-PEED."
WITHOUT ANY TIME TO ROAR...


...OR TO TRANSFORM. KILLUA INCAPACITATED YOUPI.
SUCH WAS THE DISPARITY IN INITIATIVE.
...FORCING SPEED THAT TRANSCENDED EVEN THE LIMITS OF HIS PHYSICAL POTENTIAL.
KILLUA'S "GODSPEED" ELECTRIFIED HIS ENTIRE BODY...
KILLUA HAD DIVIDED THIS POWER INTO TWO CORE FUNCTIONS.

...AND "WHIRLWIND", WHICH ALLOWED HIS BODY TO RESPOND AUTOMATICALLY TO HIS OPPONENT'S ACTIONS.
"SPEED OF LIGHTNING", WHICH ALLOWED HIM TO CONTROL HIS BODY AT WILL...


IT WAS A PREVIOUSLY "PROGRAMMED" RESPONSE TO THE MALEVOLENT INTENT IN ENEMY AURA.
A REFLEX THAT BYPASSED THE COMPARATIVELY SLOW HUMAN BRAIN...


...TO STOP HIS OPPO-NENT'S FISH DART.
IN A PREVIOUS FIGHT, HE'D USED THE LATTER...

...PHYSICAL SPEED.
EASILY SURPASSING THE ENEMY'S...

WHIRL-WIND!

BEFORE MY EXPLO-SION...

HEH HEH

THIS IS GETTING KINDA INTERESTING.

?

...I NEVER WOULD HAVE ENJOYED FIGHTING AN UPHILL BATTLE.

BUT THIS WOULD NOT HAPPEN UNTIL LATER.

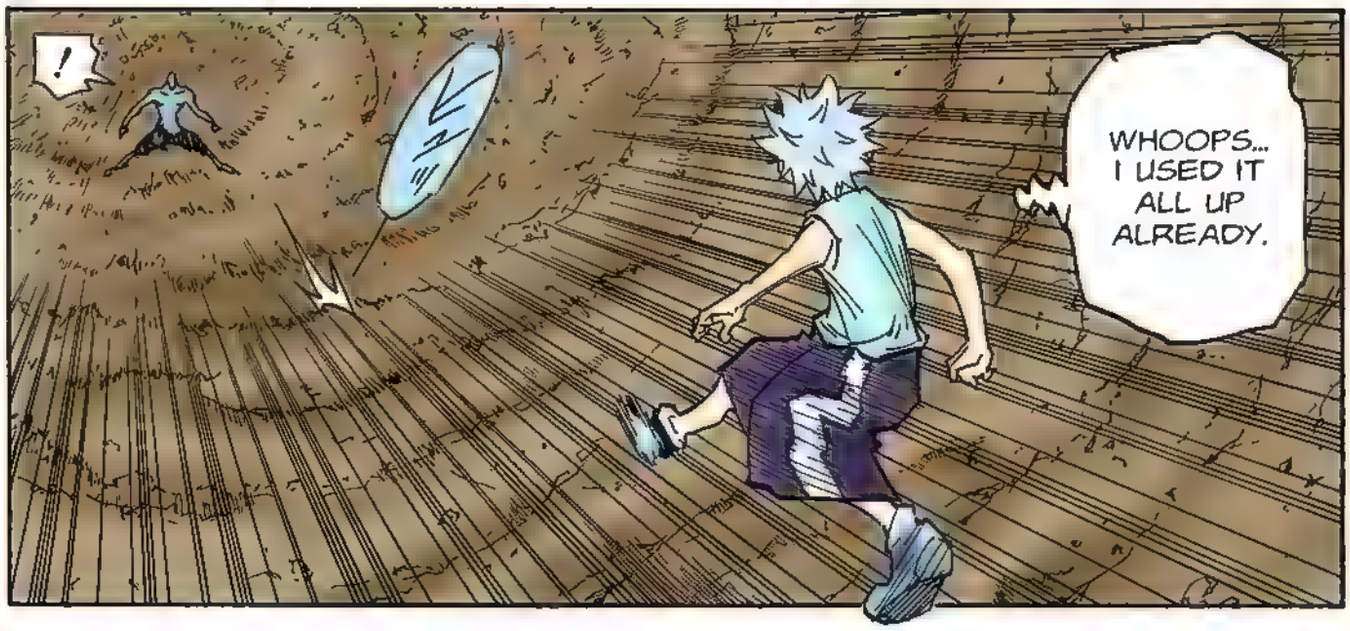
...WOULD LEAD HIM TO A SURPRISING CHOICE.

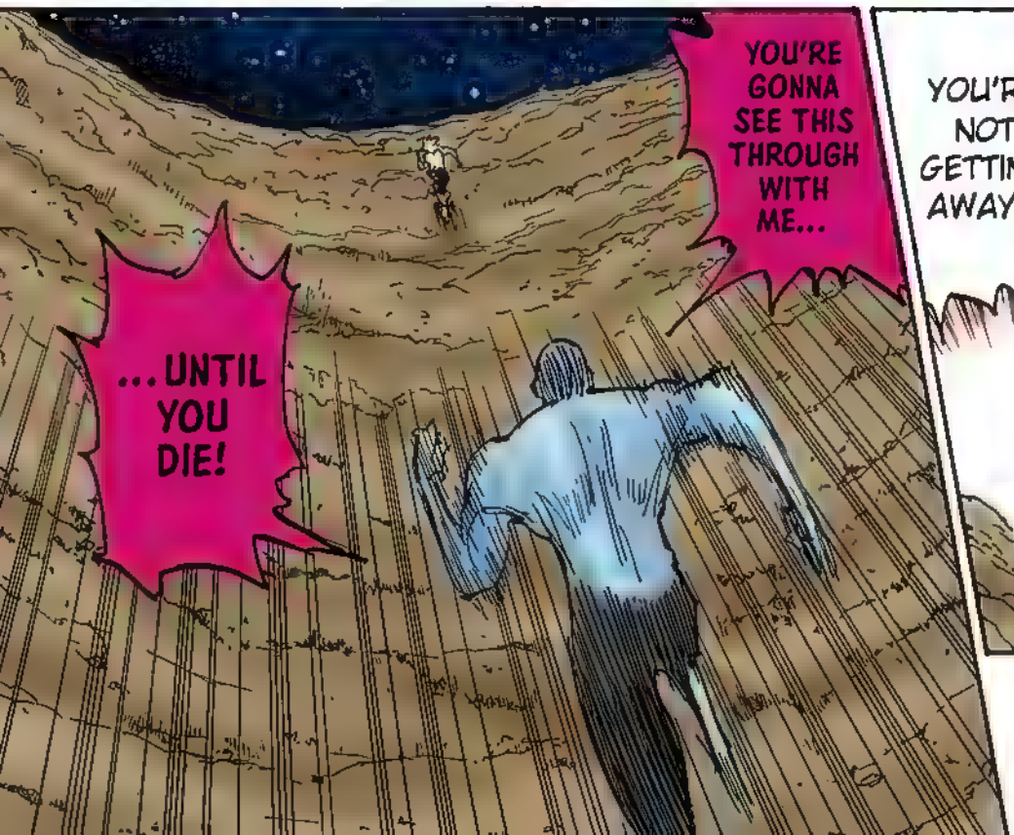
DAMN...

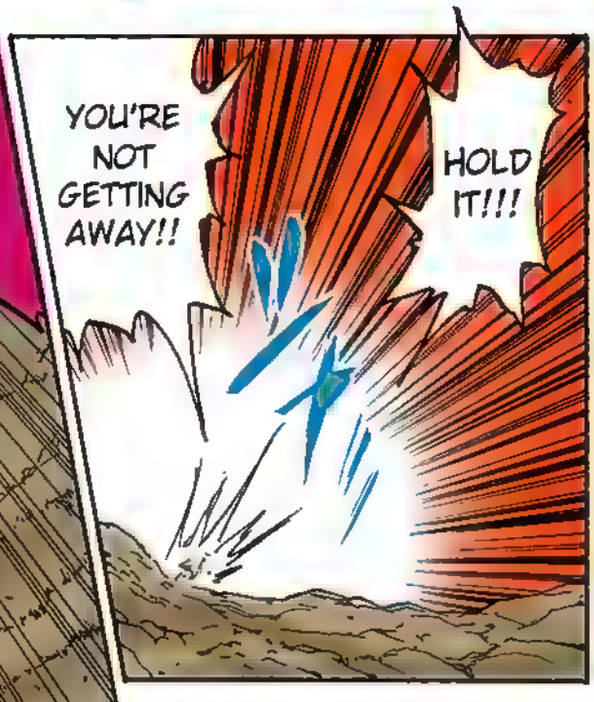
SO PROFOUND... THIS AURA STUFF IS INTENSE...

THE CHANGE IN YOUPI'S ATTITUDE...

!

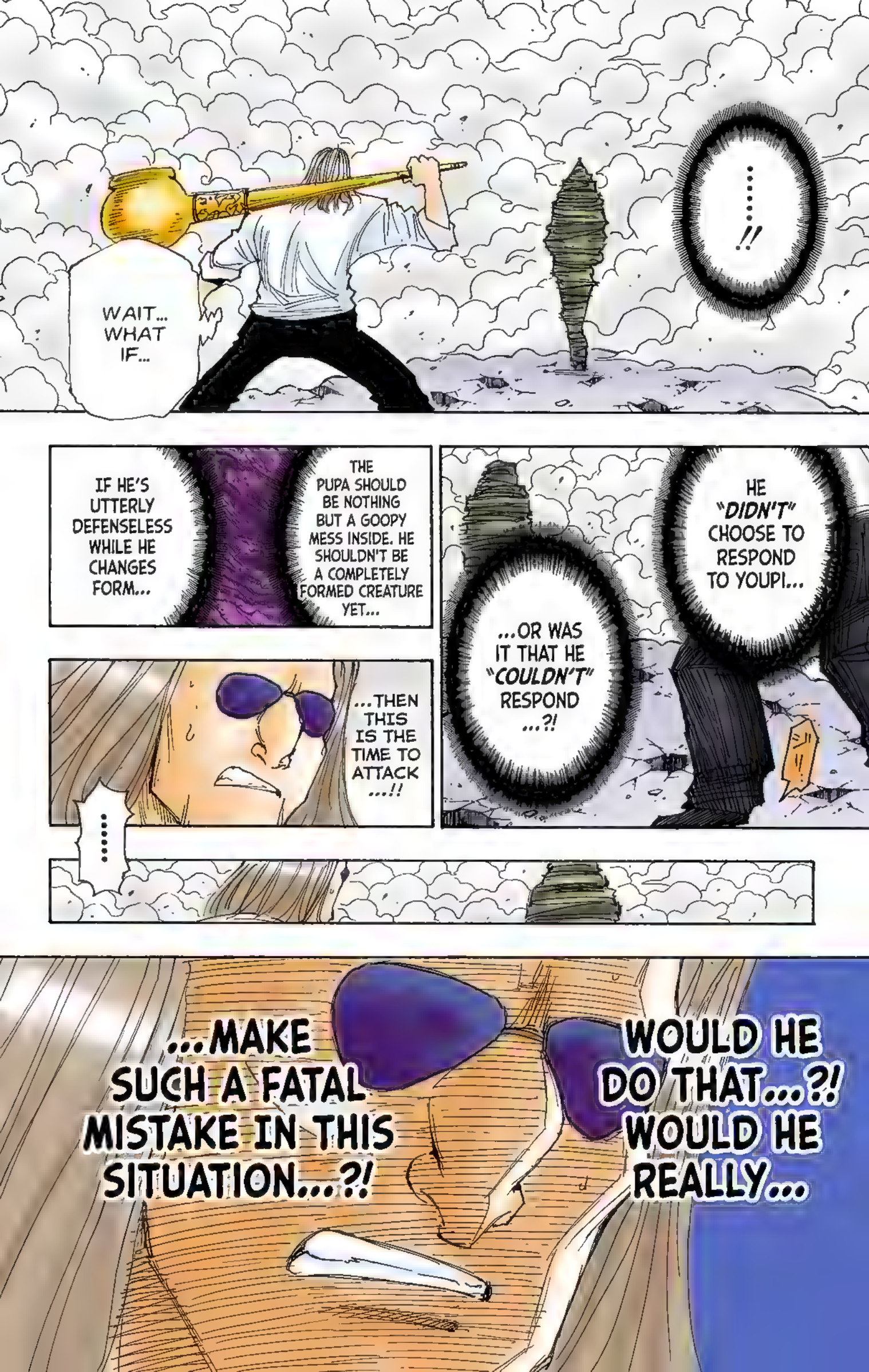

!
WHOOPS... I USED IT ALL UP ALREADY.


YOU'RE GONNA SEE THIS THROUGH WITH ME...
...UNTIL YOU DIE!

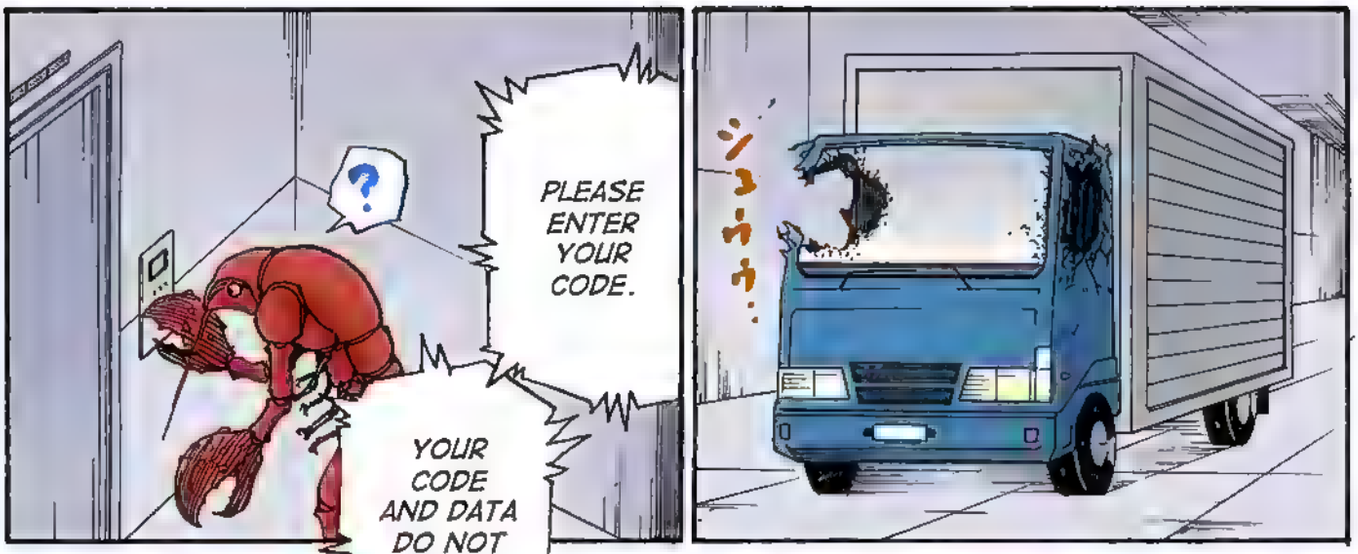

YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY!!
HOLD IT!!!

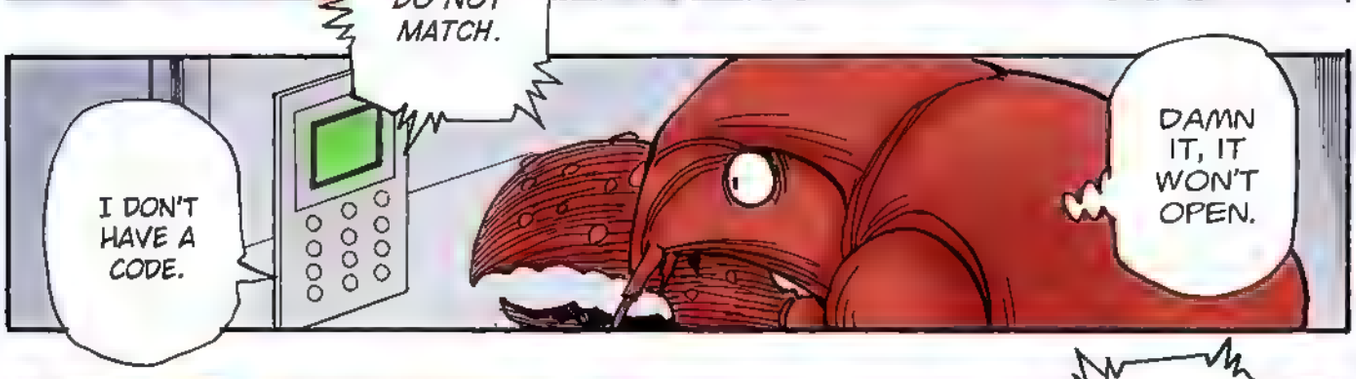
HE'S GONE !!!
!?
THERE'S ONE MORE PERSON WITH THEM...!!
THAT'S IT!!
...LIKE HE NEVER EXISTED!
...AGAIN!! HE VANISHED OUT OF NOWHERE...
...AND DISAPPEAR AT WILL!!
WITH THE ABILITY TO APPEAR...

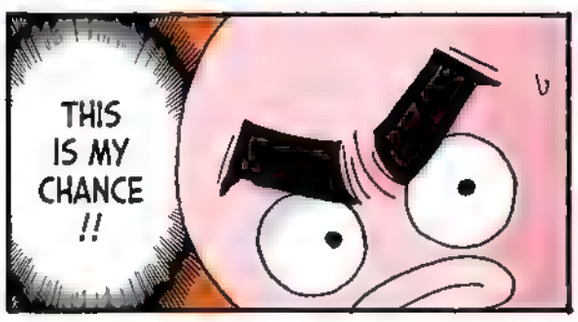
.....
NO WAY ...
WHERE DID HE GO... IN HIS CONDI-TION...?!
SHOOT !!!

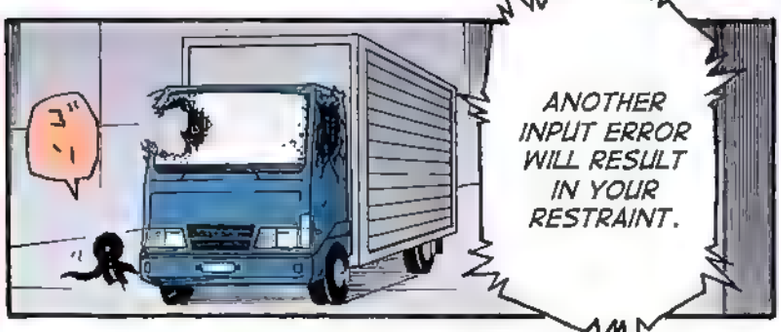

WAIT... WHAT IF...
.....!!
IF HE'S UTTERLY DEFENSELESS WHILE HE CHANGES FORM...
THE PUPA SHOULD BE NOTHING BUT A GOOPY MESS INSIDE. HE SHOULDN'T BE A COMPLETELY FORMED CREATURE YET...
HE "DIDN'T" CHOOSE TO RESPOND TO YOUP!...
...OR WAS IT THAT HE "COULDN'T" RESPOND ...?!
...THEN THIS IS THE TIME TO ATTACK ...!!
.....
...MAKE SUCH A FATAL MISTAKE IN THIS SITUATION...?!
WOULD HE DO THAT...?! WOULD HE REALLY...

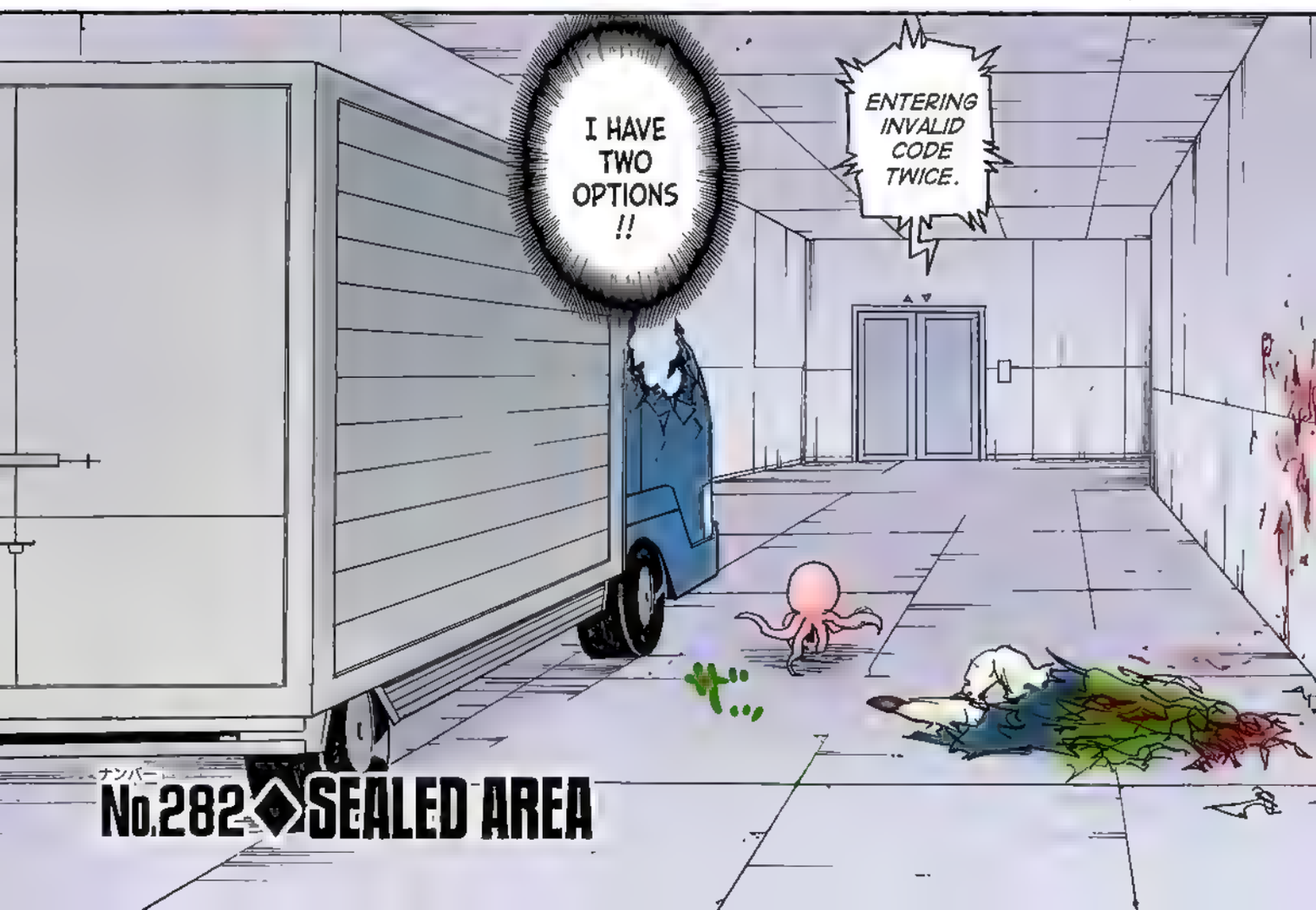
OR HAS IT ALREADY BEEN ACTIVATED... BEFORE I'VE EVEN ATTACKED?!
WHETHER THE TRAP ACTIVATES WHEN I ATTACK...
IT'S 100% GUARANTEED TO BE A TRAP!! BUT THE QUESTION IS...
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!! THIS MUST BE A TRAP!!
WHICH IS IT?!
HOW-EVER, THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT...
YOU HAVE DOUBTS BECAUSE YOU ARE EXCEP-TIONAL...
...OR NOT?!
WHAT DO I DO ...?!
SHOULD I ATTACK...











No.282 SEALED AREA

THAT WAY, WHEN HE WAKES UP, HE'LL STILL BE STUCK IN THE ELEVATOR. BUT THERE'S A HIGH RISK THAT SOMEONE UPSTAIRS WILL NOTICE SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THE ELEVATOR.

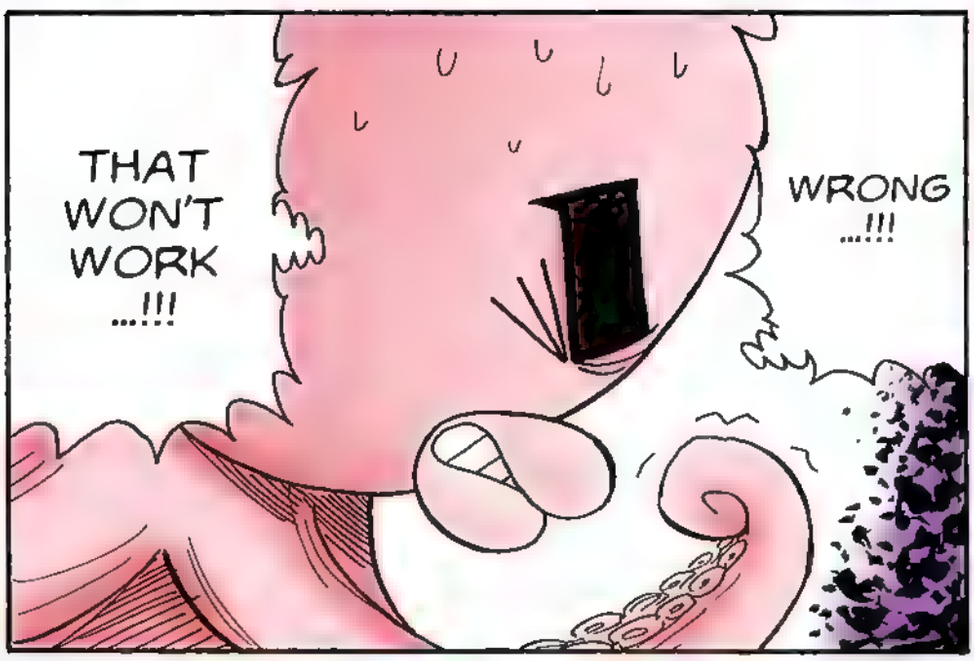
① I LEAVE BLOSTER IN THE ELEVATOR AND HEAD FOR THE SURFACE THROUGH THE FREIGHT ENTRANCE!!

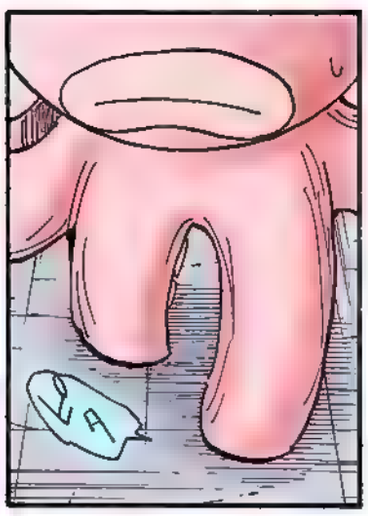
THERE ARE PLENTY OF CARS PARKED AROUND AND THE WAREHOUSE DOORS REQUIRE A CODE TO OPEN FROM THE INSIDE. WHEN HE WAKES UP, BLOSTER WON'T BE ABLE TO OPEN THEM!!

② I MOVE BLOSTER SOMEWHERE ELSE WHILE HE'S KNOCKED OUT.

ONCE HE'S ASLEEP, I HAVE TO DECIDE...!!

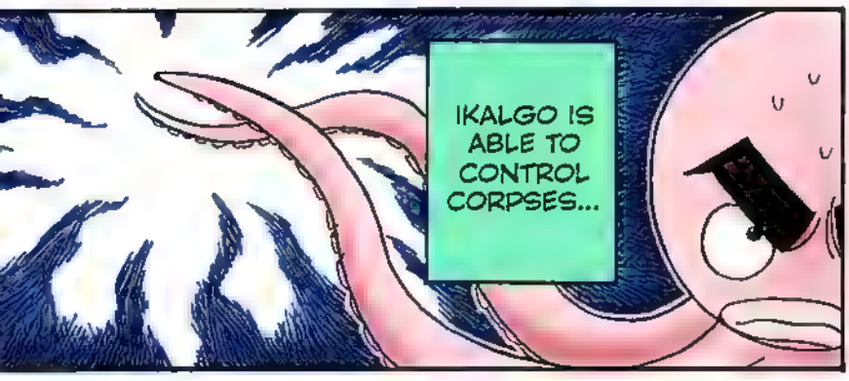
AFTER FAILING TO ENTER THE CODE THE ELEVATOR WILL BE FILLED WITH A SLEEPING GAS.

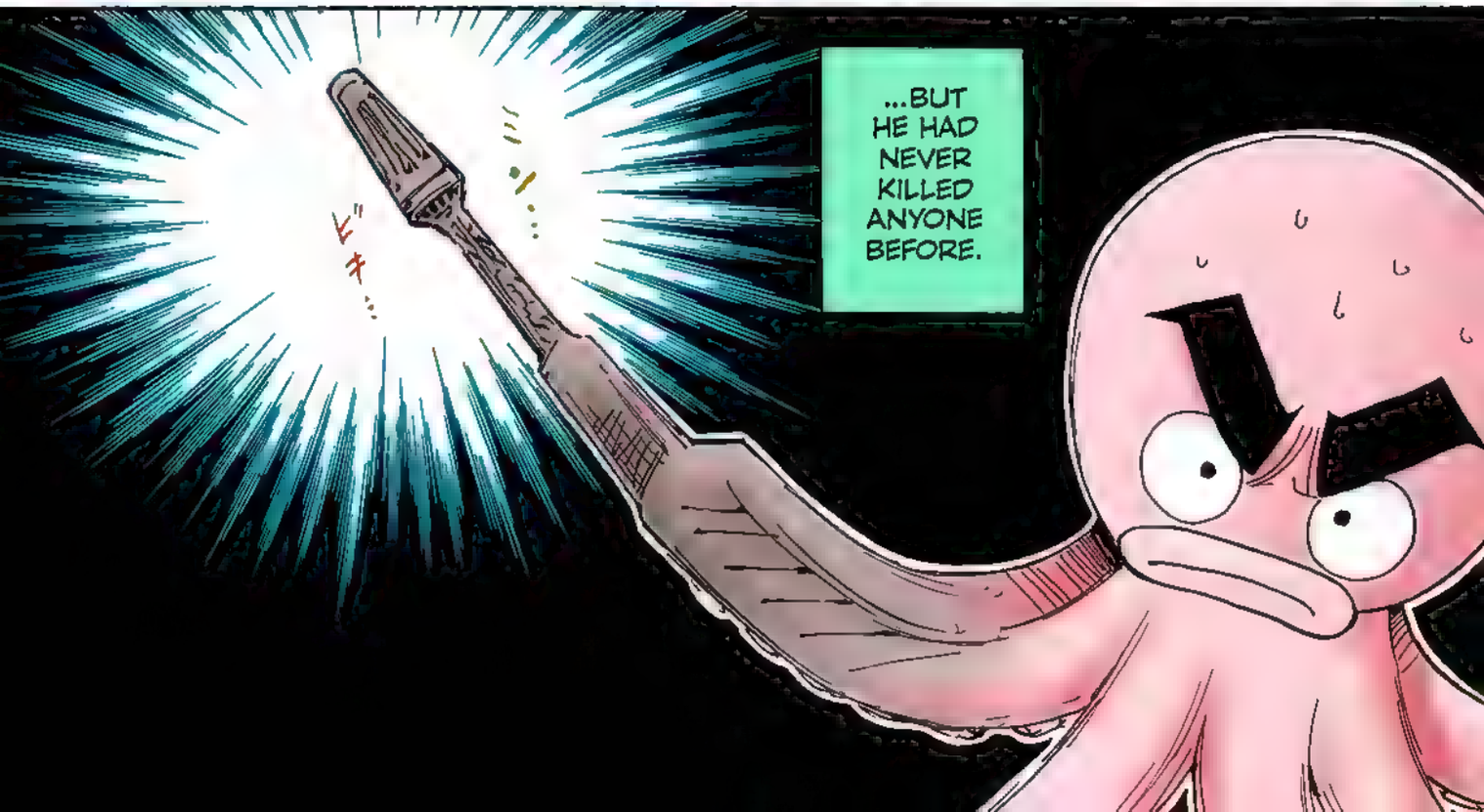


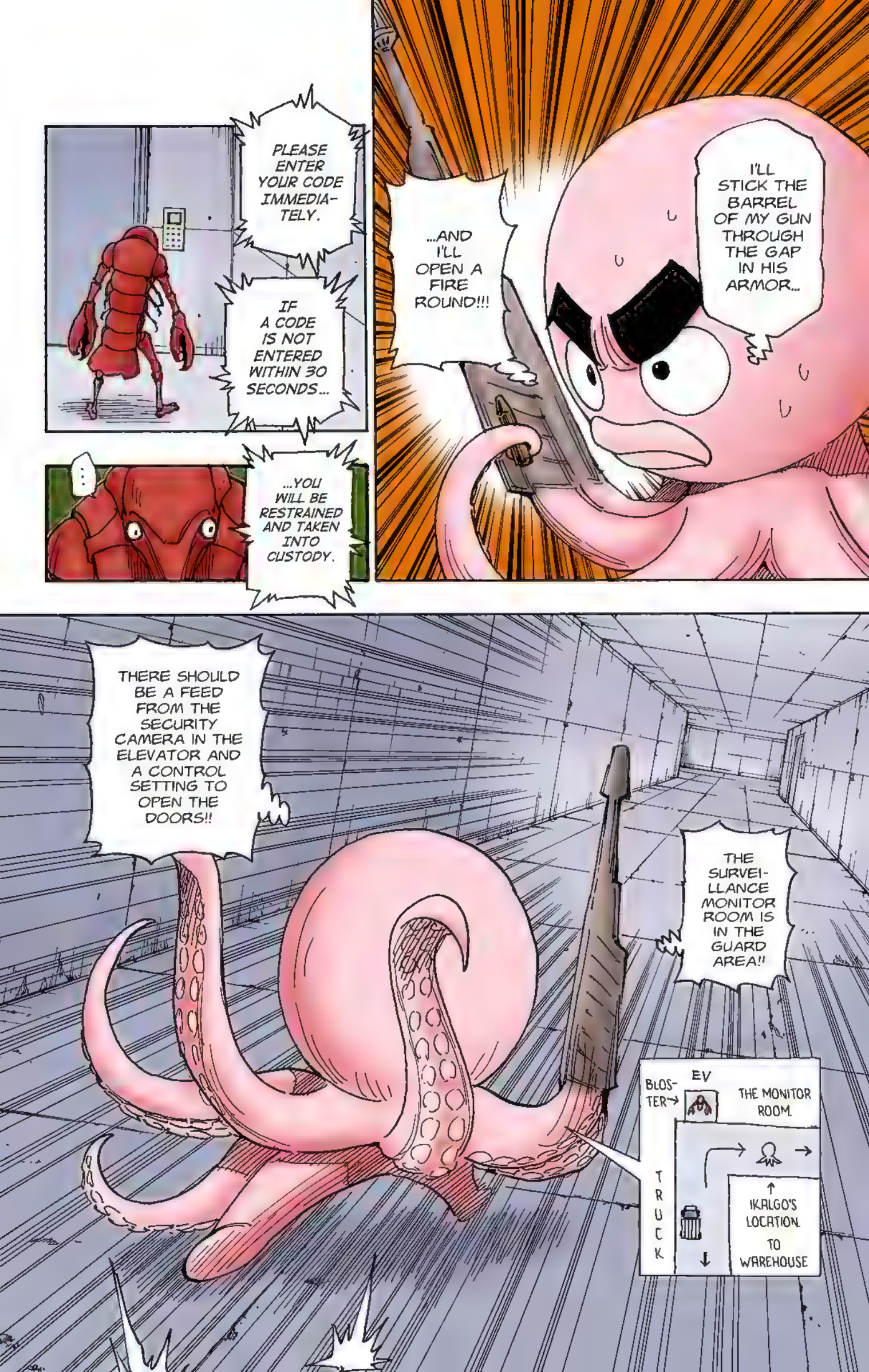


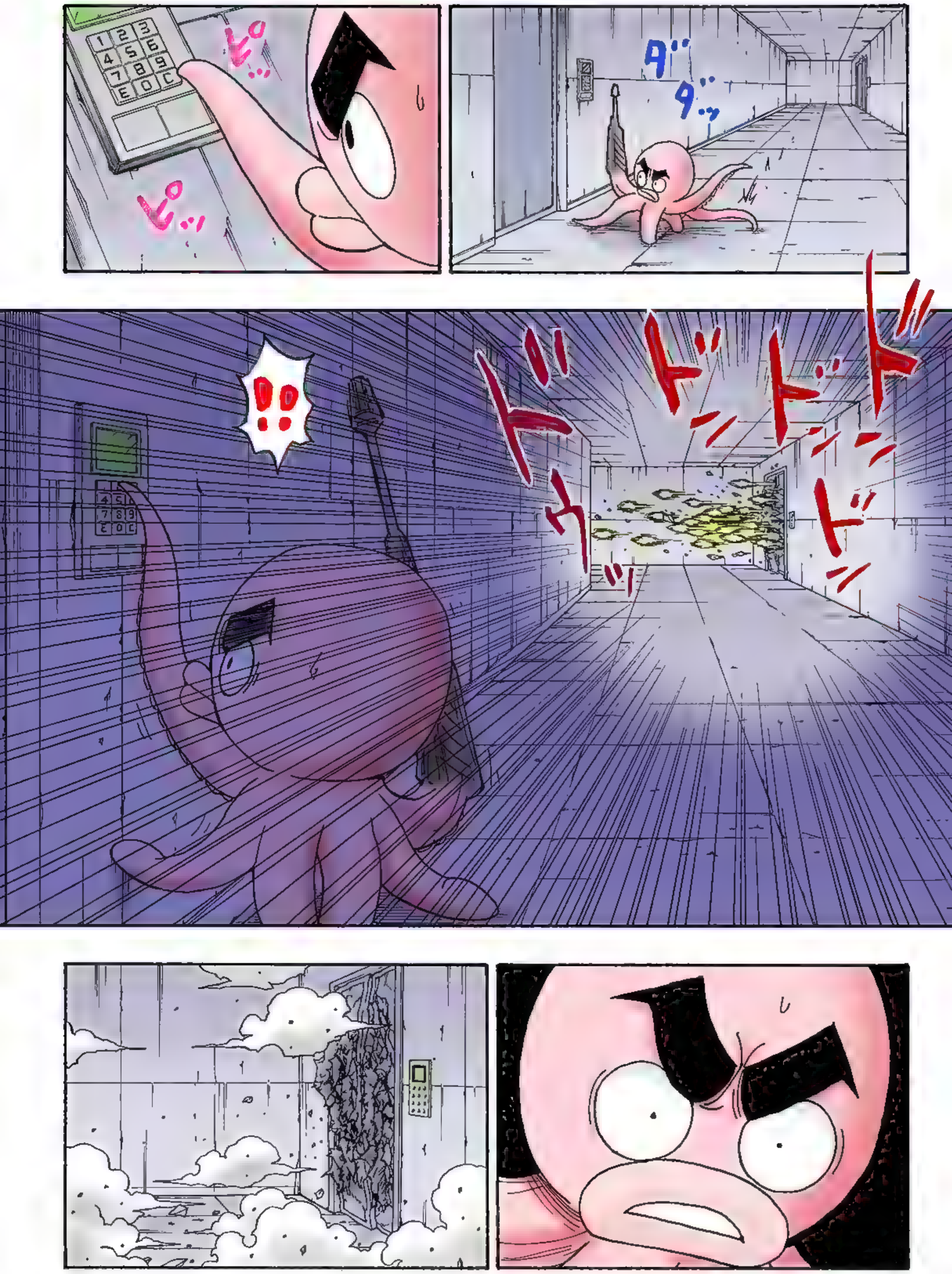
I HAVE TO KILL BLOSTER WHILE HE'S ASLEEP!!!

THAT'S THE SAFEST OPTION!!






PLEASE ENTER YOUR CODE IMMEDIATELY.
IF A CODE IS NOT ENTERED WITHIN 30 SECONDS...
...YOU WILL BE RESTRAINED AND TAKEN INTO CUSTODY.
...AND I'LL OPEN A FIRE ROUND!!!
I'LL STICK THE BARREL OF MY GUN THROUGH THE GAP IN HIS ARMOR...
THERE SHOULD BE A FEED FROM THE SECURITY CAMERA IN THE ELEVATOR AND A CONTROL SETTING TO OPEN THE DOORS!!
THE SURVEILLANCE MONITOR ROOM IS IN THE GUARD AREA!!
EV
BLOSTER→
THE MONITOR ROOM
TRUCK
IKALGO'S LOCATION
TO WAREHOUSE



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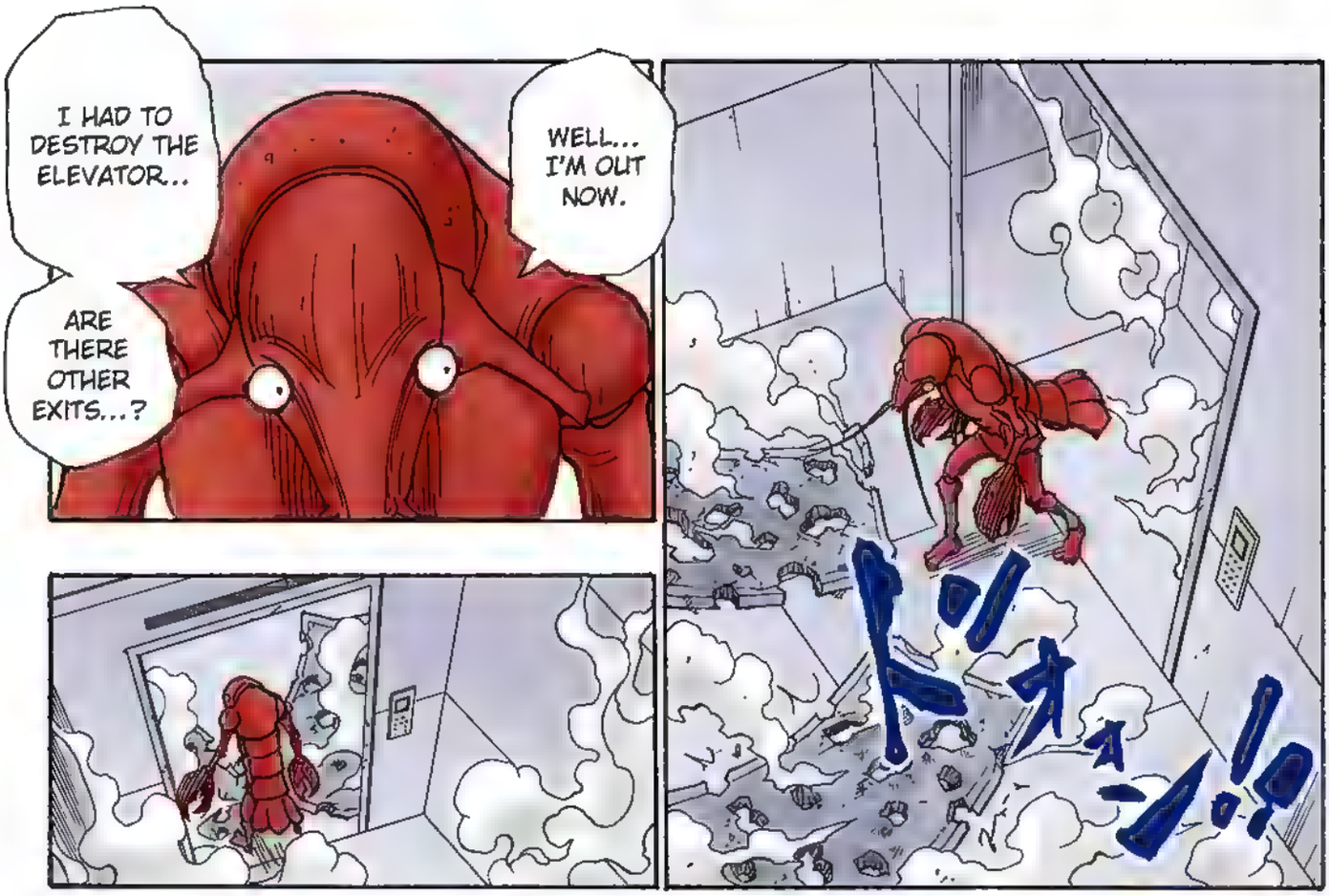
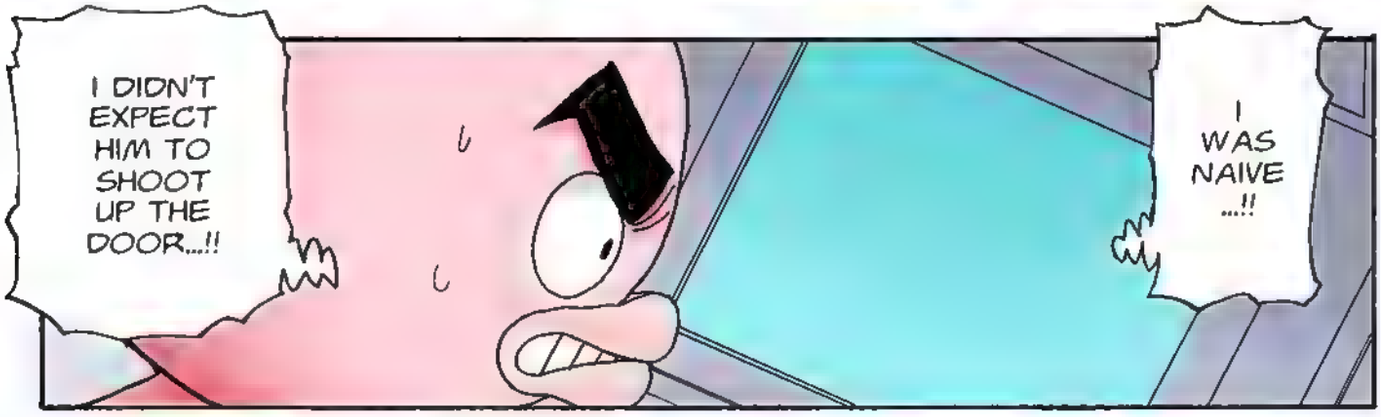
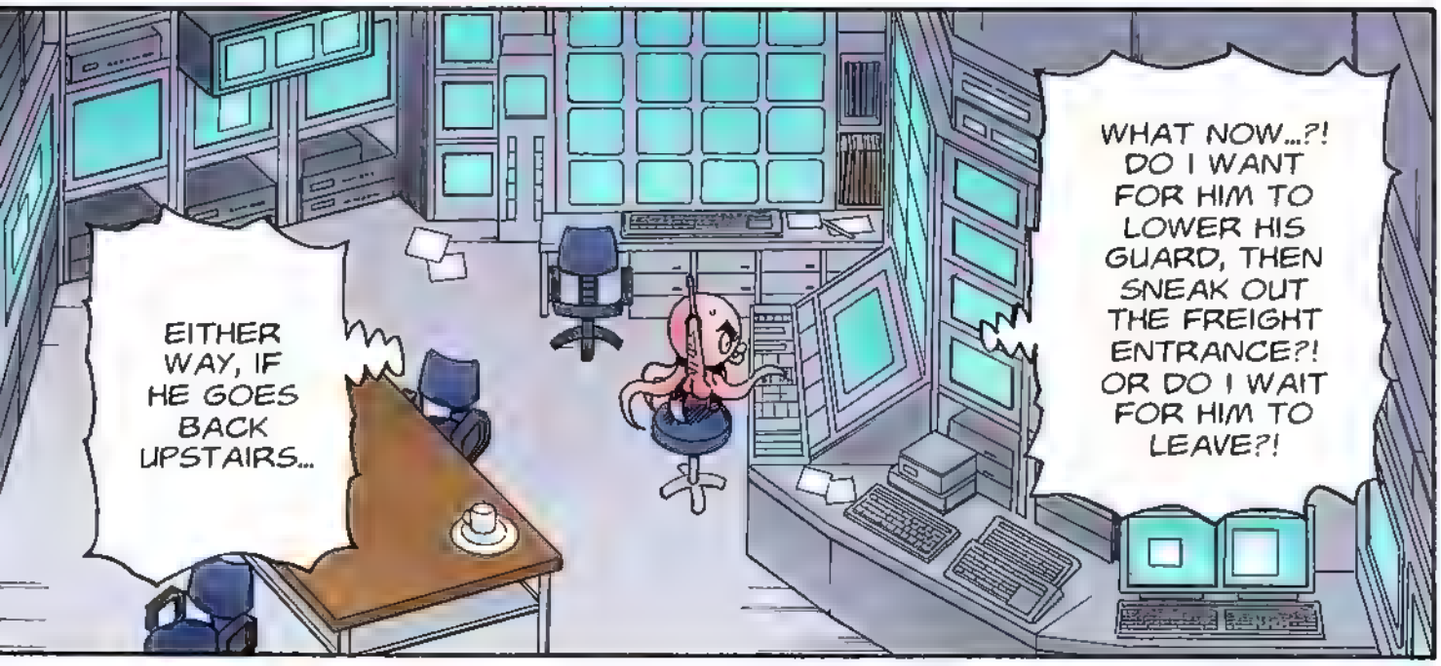
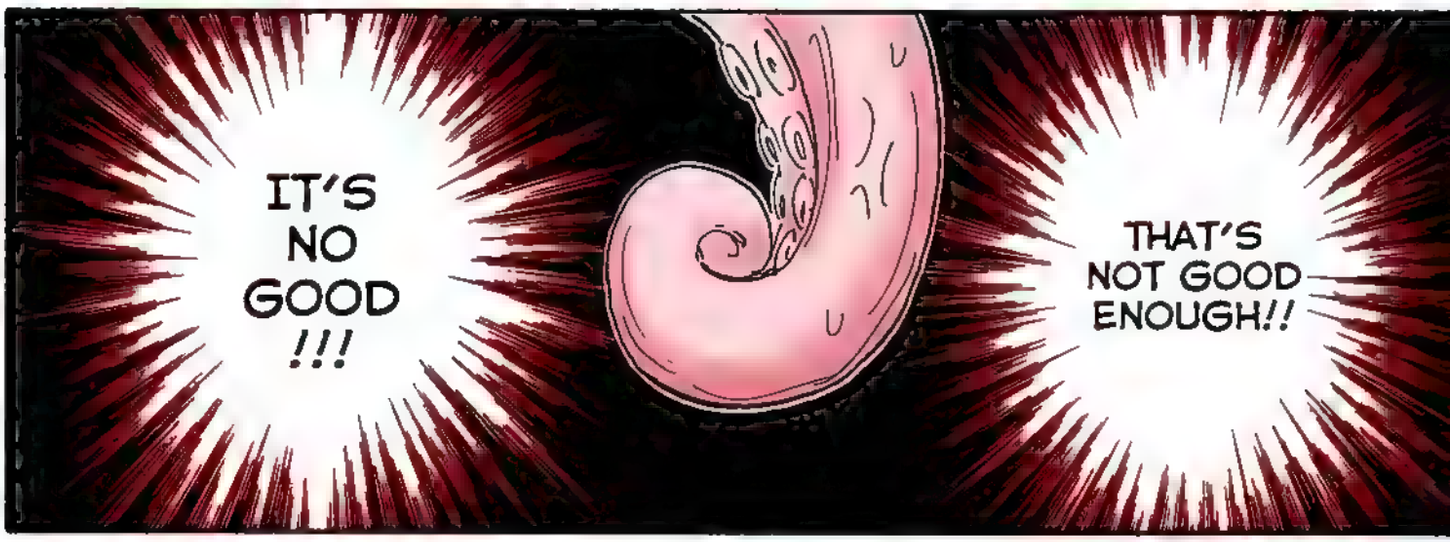
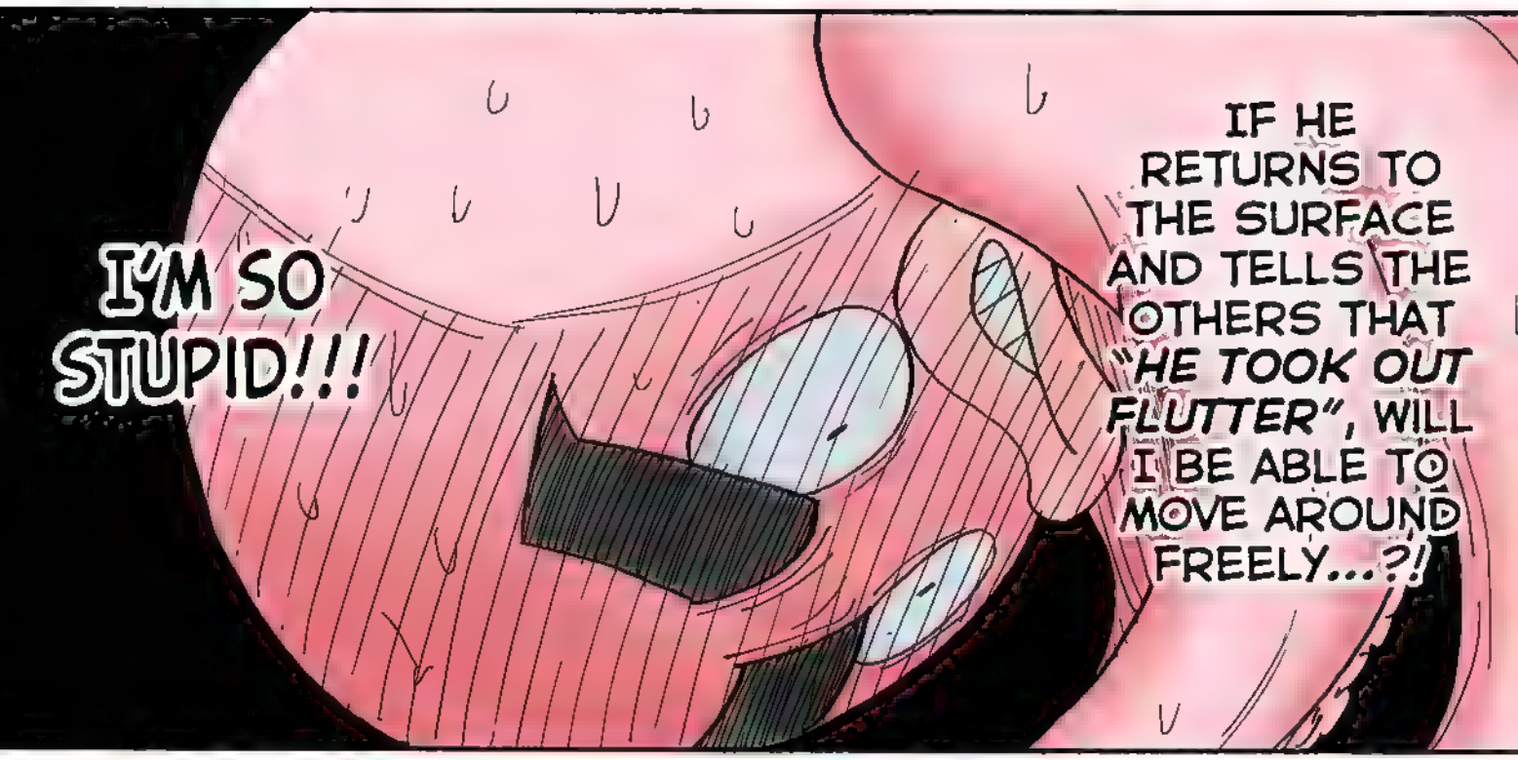
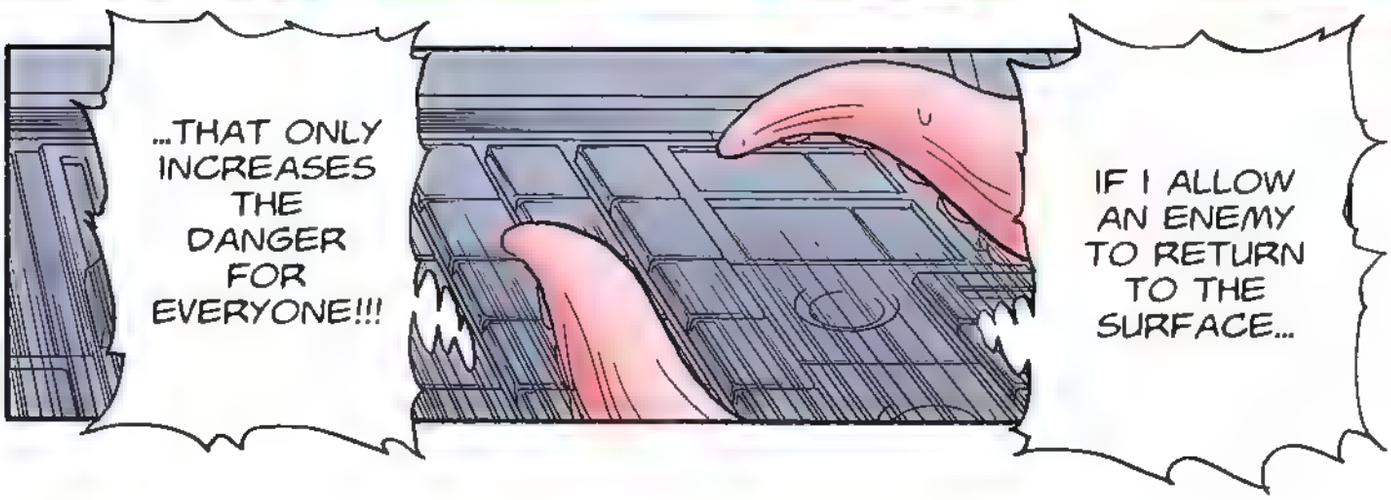

I HAD TO DESTROY THE ELEVATOR...
ARE THERE OTHER EXITS...?
WELL... I'M OUT NOW.
ドッオォォン!!

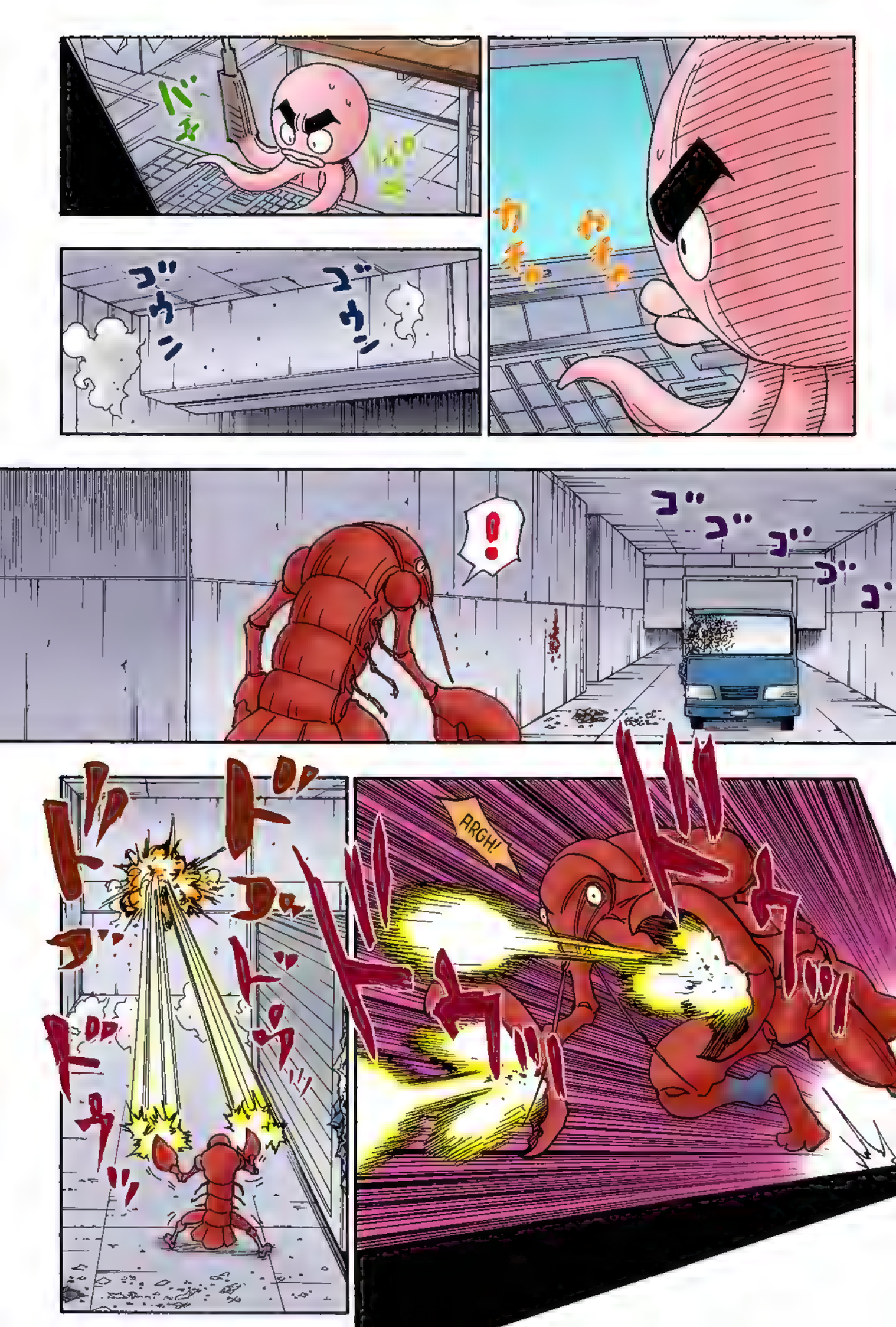

I DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO SHOOT UP THE DOOR...!!
I WAS NAIVE ...!!


EITHER WAY, IF HE GOES BACK UPSTAIRS...
WHAT NOW...?! DO I WANT FOR HIM TO LOWER HIS GUARD, THEN SNEAK OUT THE FREIGHT ENTRANCE?! OR DO I WAIT FOR HIM TO LEAVE?!


IT'S NO GOOD !!!
THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH!!


I'M SO STUPID!!!
IF HE RETURNS TO THE SURFACE AND TELLS THE OTHERS THAT "HE TOOK OUT FLUTTER", WILL I BE ABLE TO MOVE AROUND FREELY...?!


...THAT ONLY INCREASES THE DANGER FOR EVERYONE!!!
IF I ALLOW AN ENEMY TO RETURN TO THE SURFACE...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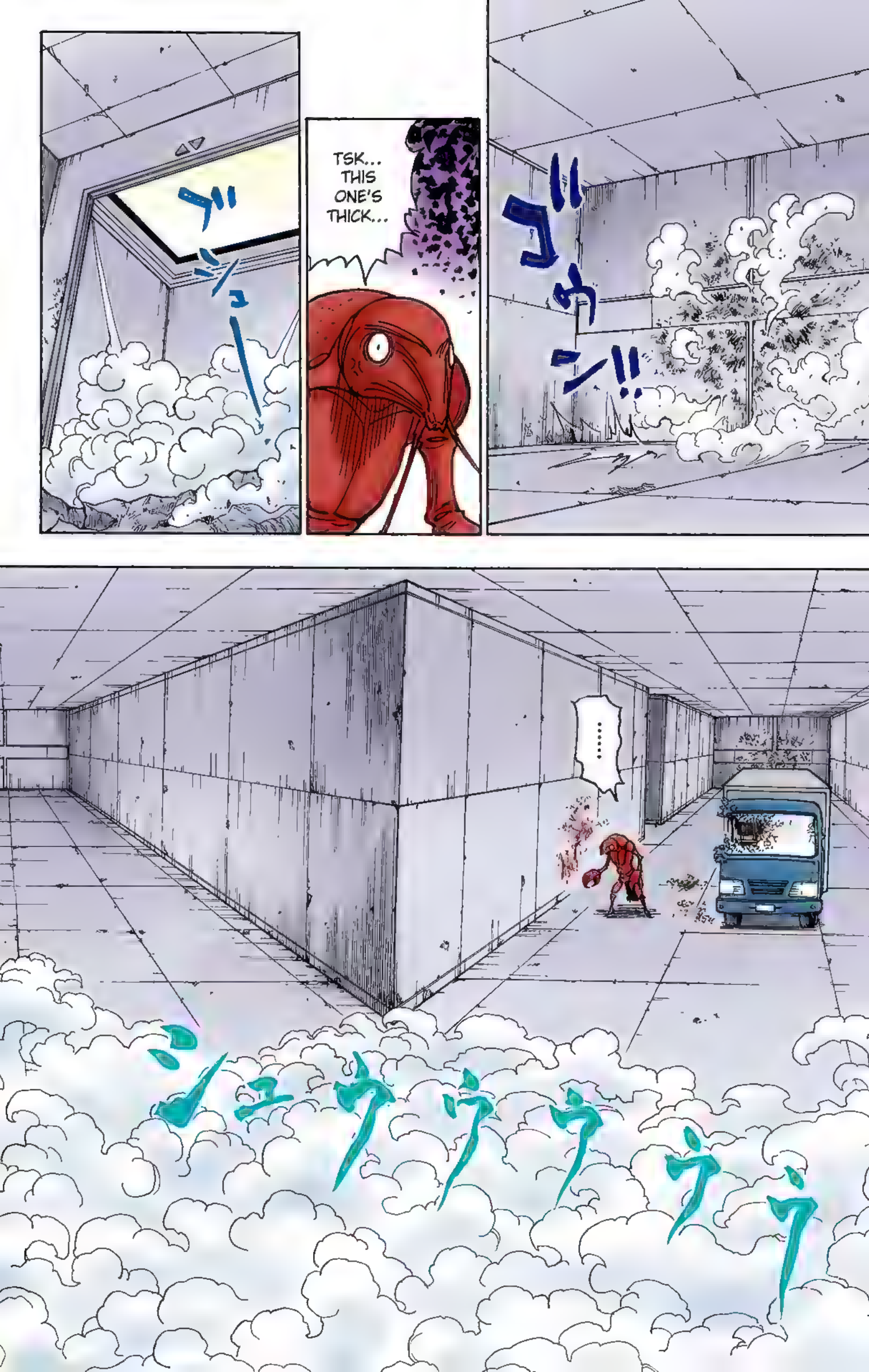
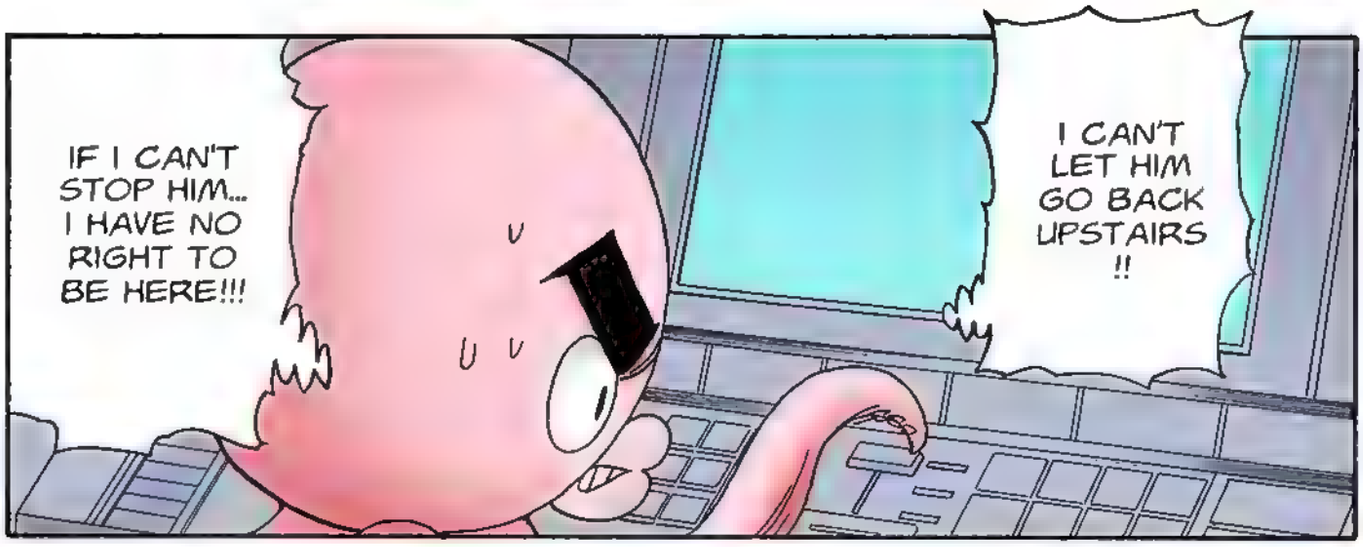
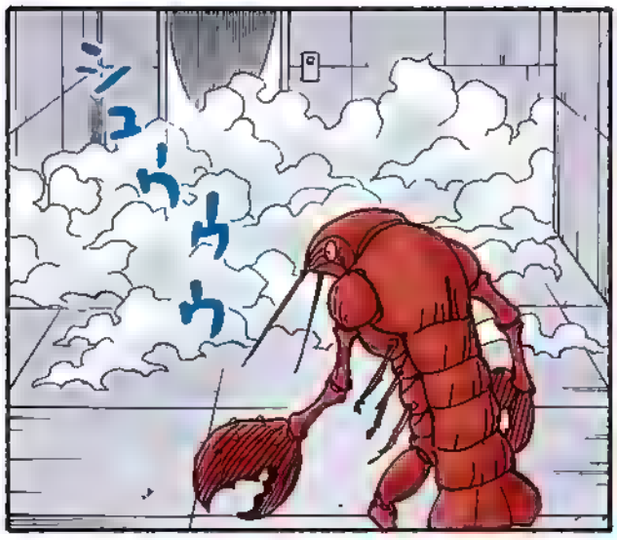
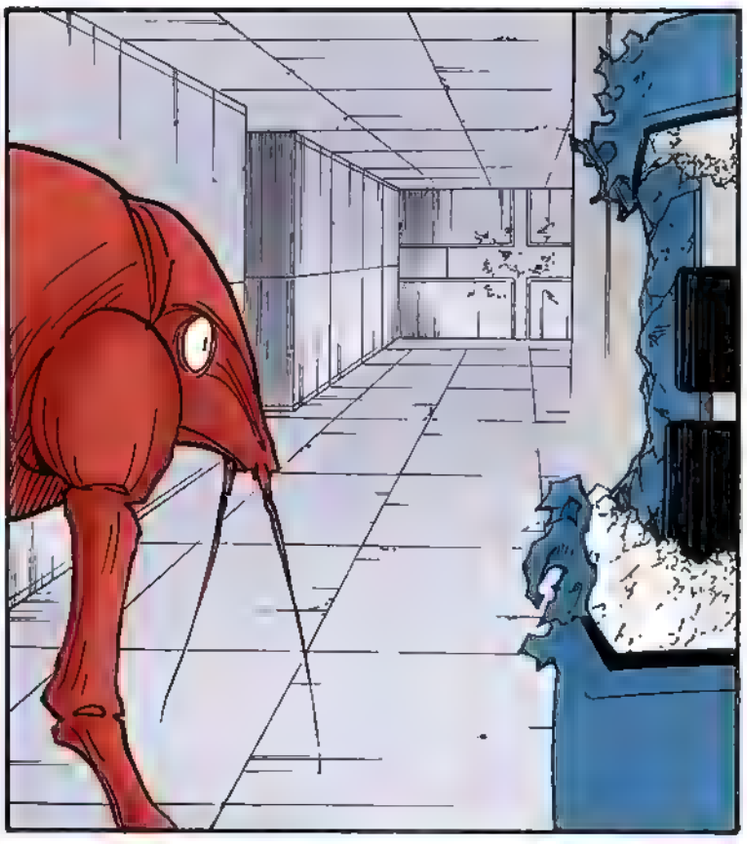
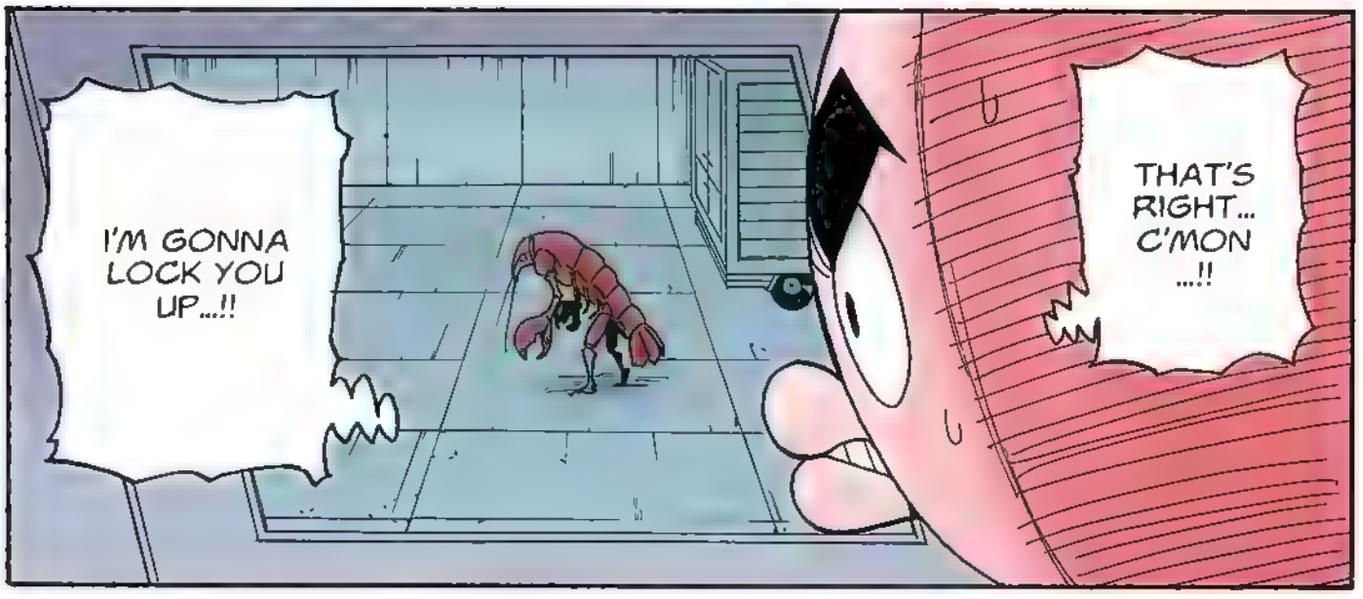

TSK... THIS ONE'S THICK...
……

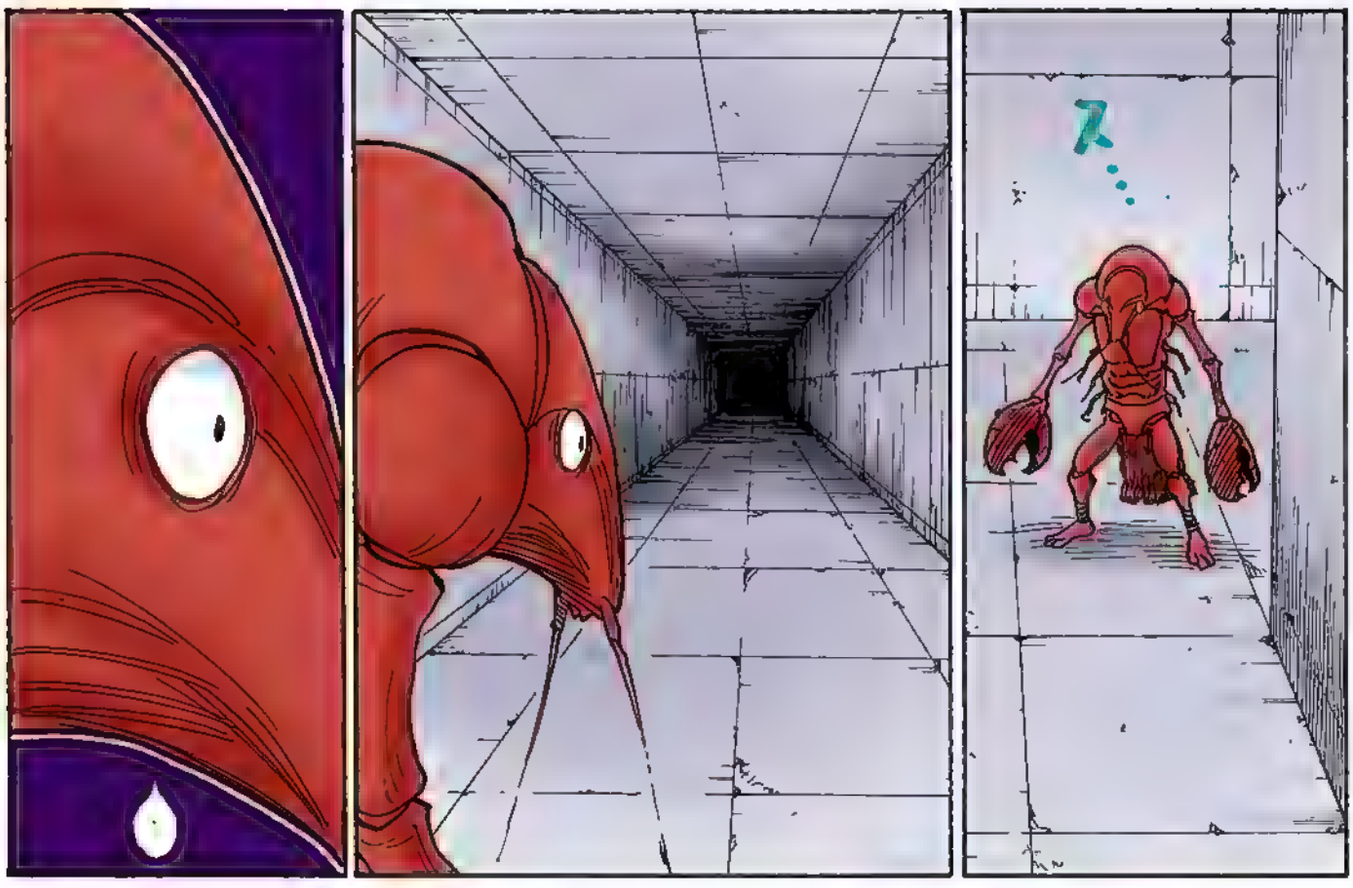

IF I CAN'T STOP HIM... I HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE HERE!!!
I CAN'T LET HIM GO BACK UPSTAIRS !!

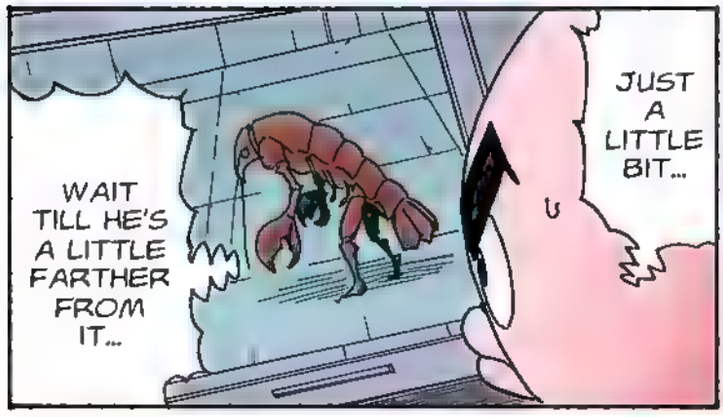

シュウウウ

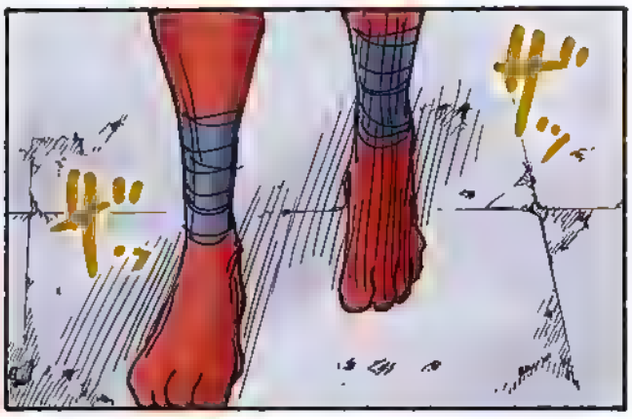
FEW

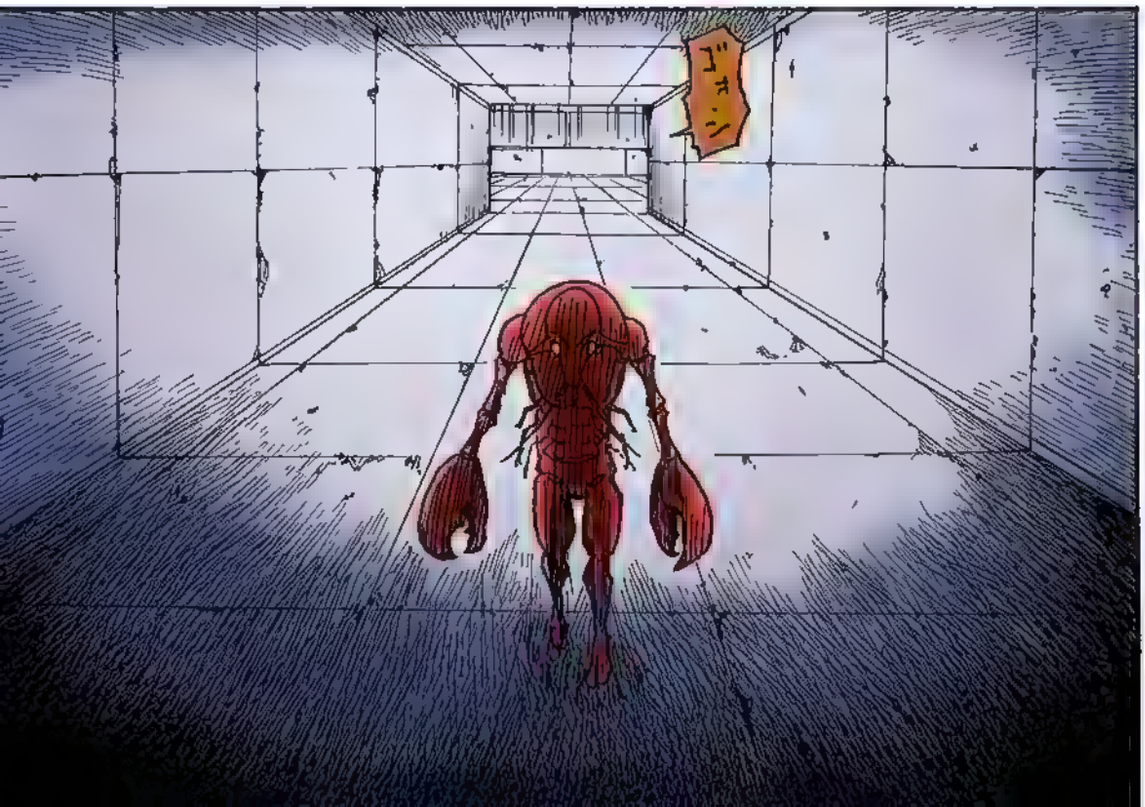



I'M GONNA LOCK YOU UP...!!
THAT'S RIGHT... C'MON ...!!




WAIT TILL HE'S A LITTLE FARTHER FROM IT...
JUST A LITTLE BIT...

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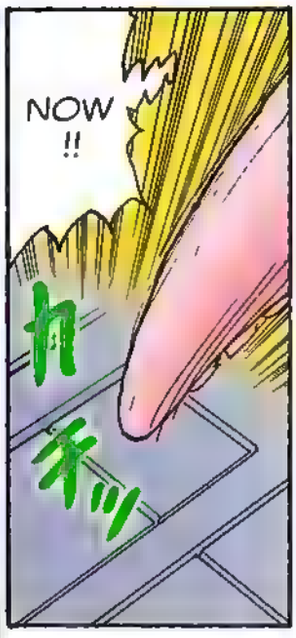
NOW !!

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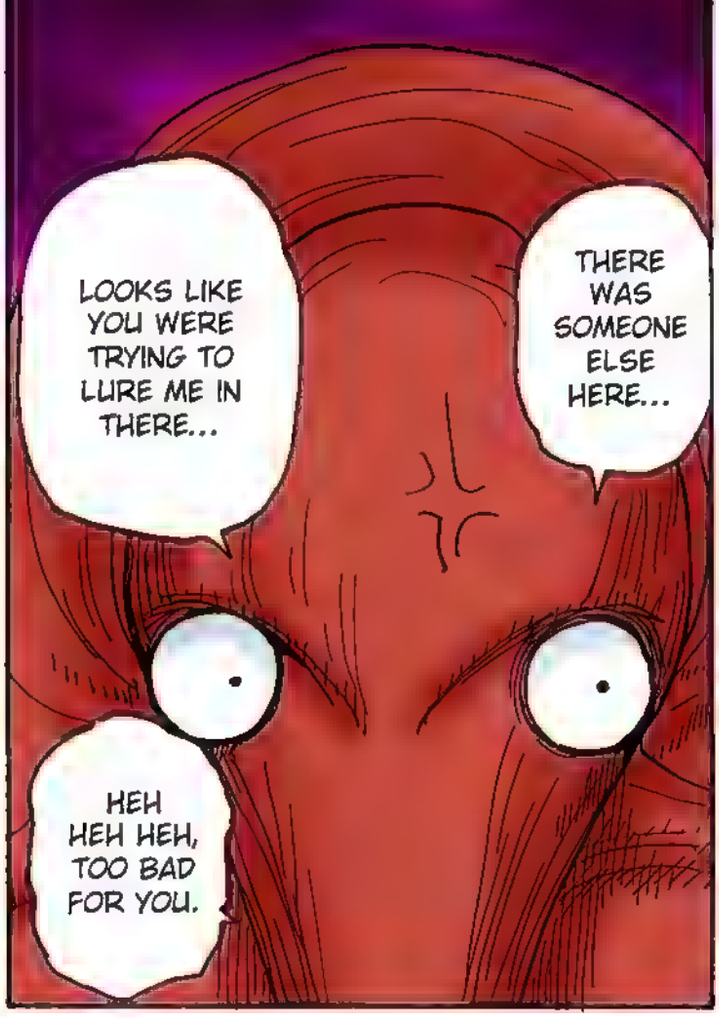
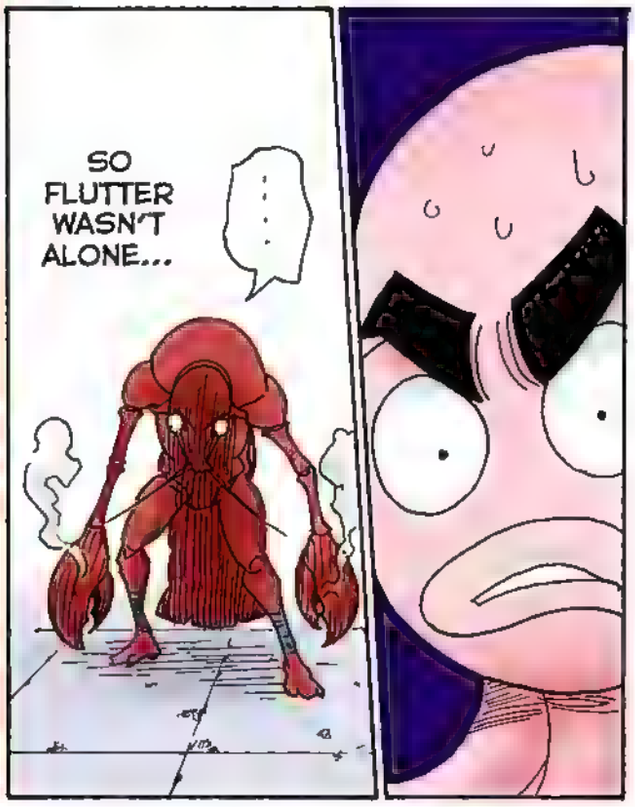
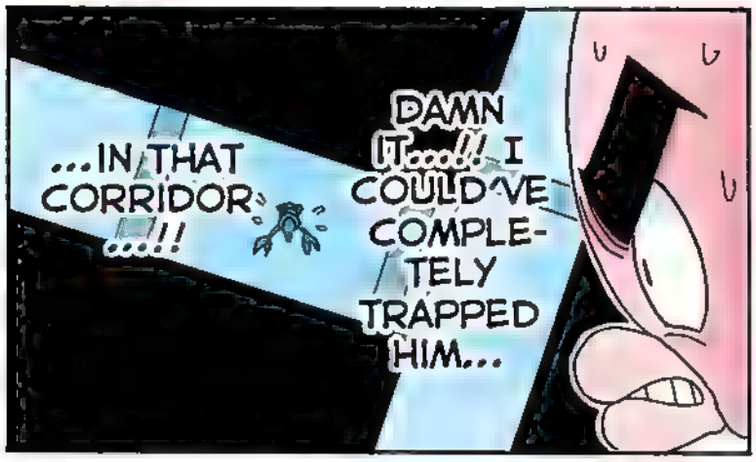
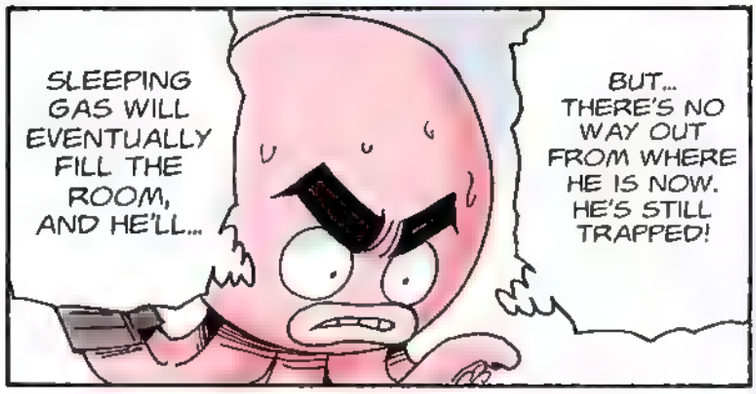
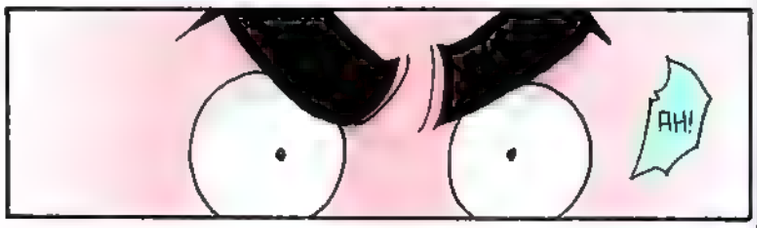

LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE TRYING TO LURE ME IN THERE...
THERE WAS SOMEONE ELSE HERE...
HEH HEH HEH, TOO BAD FOR YOU.


SO FLUTTER WASN'T ALONE...

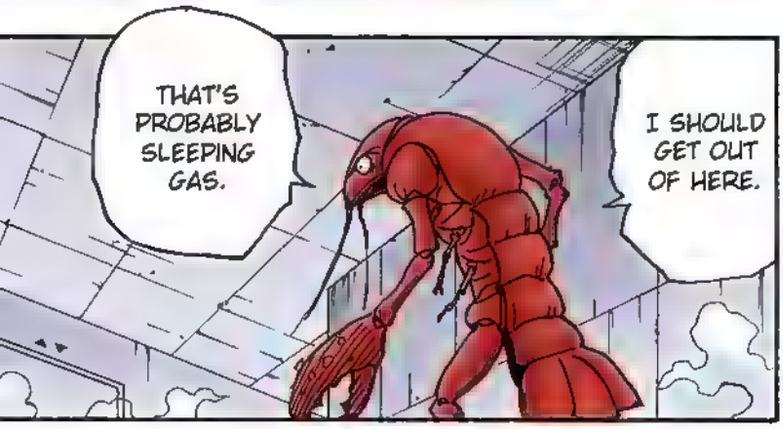

...IN THAT CORRIDOR...!!
DAMN IT...!! I COULD'VE COMPLETELY TRAPPED HIM...

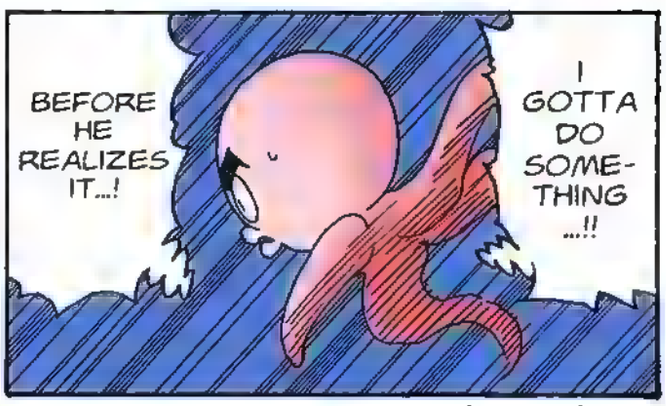

SLEEPING GAS WILL EVENTUALLY FILL THE ROOM, AND HE'LL...
BUT... THERE'S NO WAY OUT FROM WHERE HE IS NOW. HE'S STILL TRAPPED!

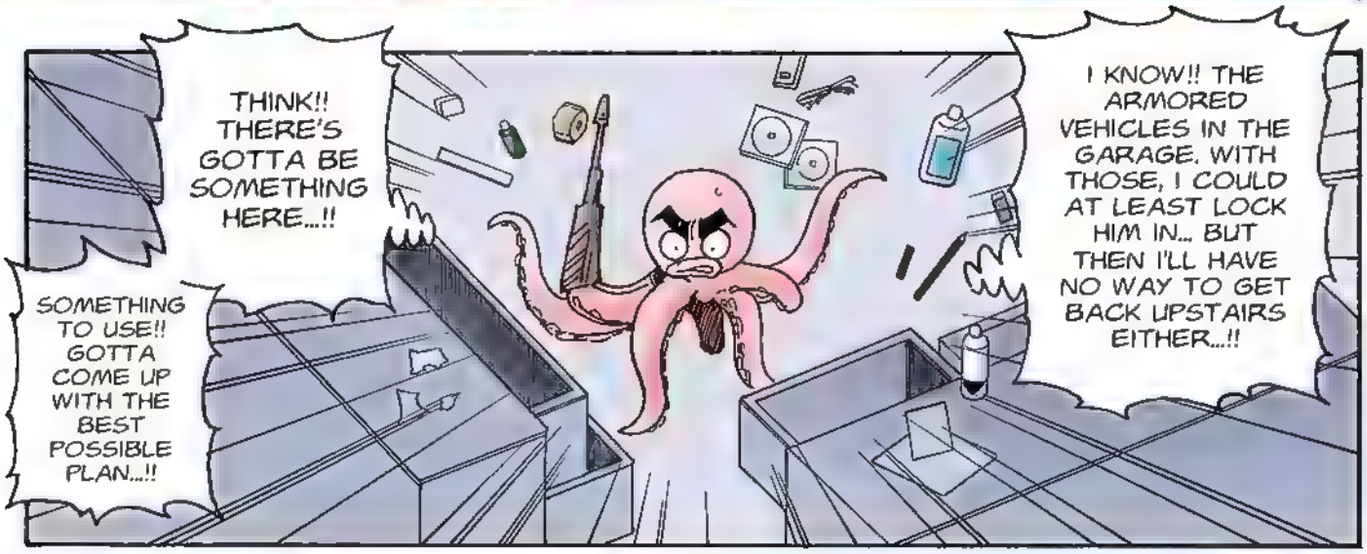

AH!

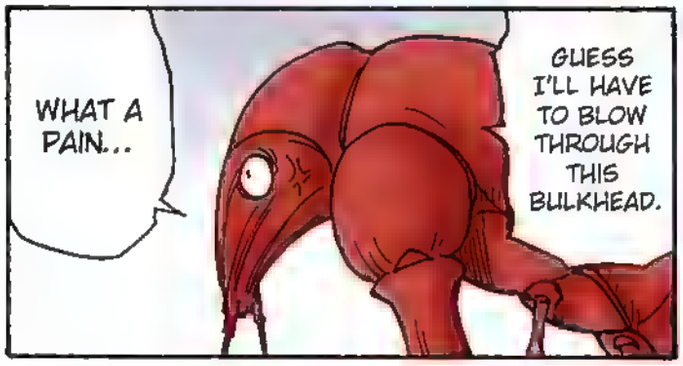
WOULDN'T THAT BE A SUSPICIOUS TRAP? WELL...
IF ONLY ONE PATH REMAINS, IT'S TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.
NOW I KNOW YOU EXIST. HEH HEH HEH.
AND I BET YOU'RE HIDING IN THE SURVEILLANCE ROOM TO WATCH ME, AREN'T YOU? YOU CHICKEN.

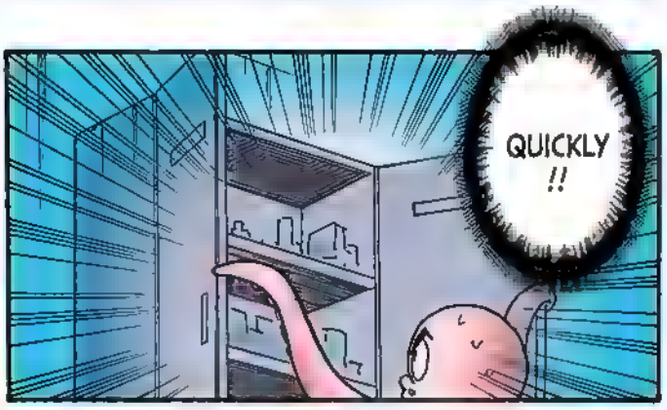
HE ISN'T TRAPPED!! THERE'S A WAY OUT!!
DAMN IT...!!


THAT'S PROBABLY SLEEPING GAS.
I SHOULD GET OUT OF HERE.


BEFORE HE REALIZES IT...!
I GOTTA DO SOME-THING ...!!


THINK!! THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING HERE...!!
SOMETHING TO USE!! GOTTA COME UP WITH THE BEST POSSIBLE PLAN...!!
I KNOW!! THE ARMORED VEHICLES IN THE GARAGE. WITH THOSE, I COULD AT LEAST LOCK HIM IN... BUT THEN I'LL HAVE NO WAY TO GET BACK UPSTAIRS EITHER...!!


WHAT A PAIN...
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BLOW THROUGH THIS BULKHEAD.


QUICKLY !!

I HAVE TO DO IT!!!
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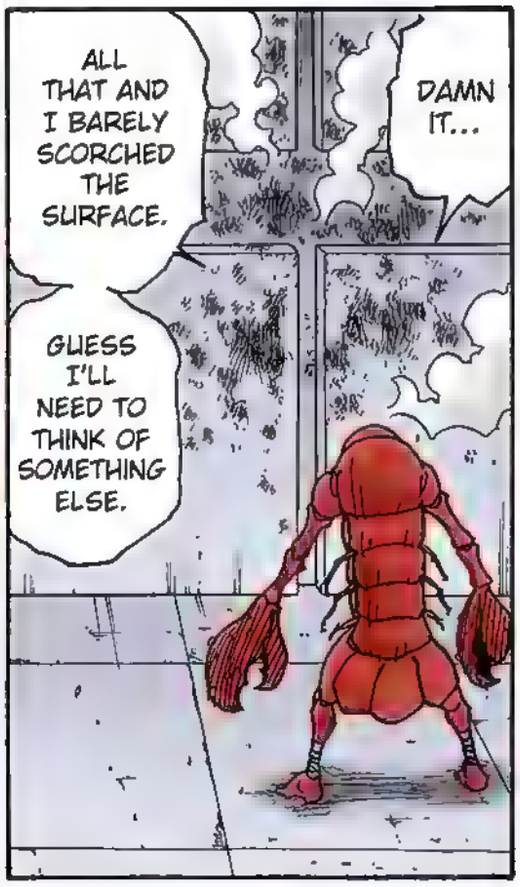
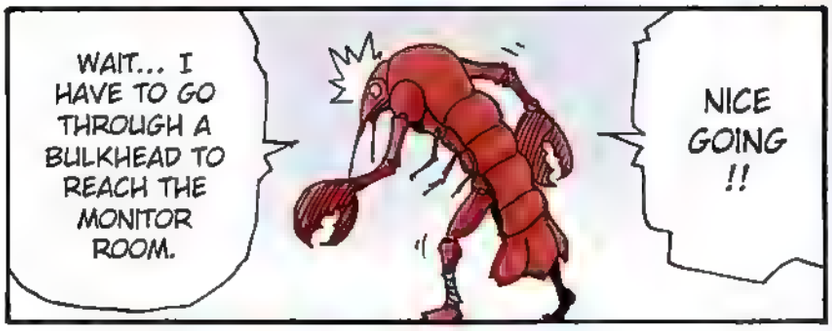
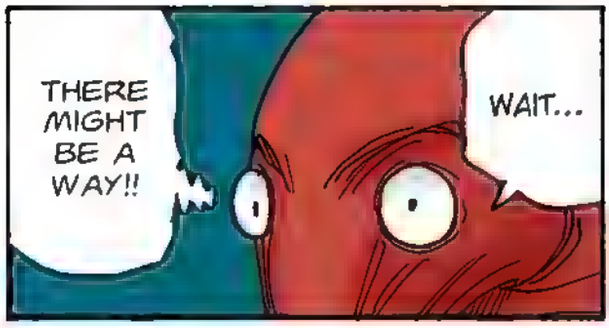
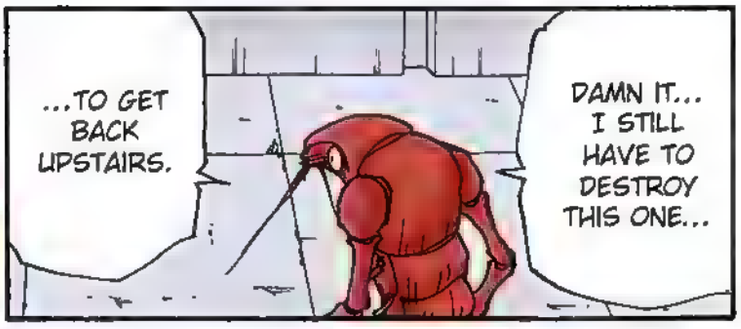
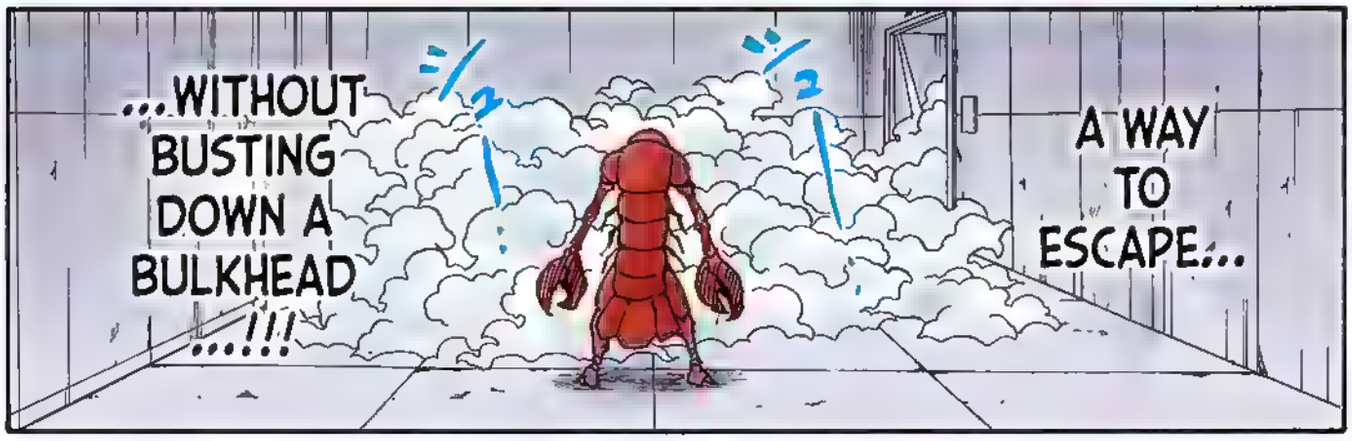
GARAGE
WARE-HOUSE
MONI-TOR ROOM
ME
EV
SURFACE
THAT'S IT...!! THE BULKHEAD CONTROLS ARE IN THE MONITOR ROOM, SO I CAN GO THERE TO OPEN THE BULKHEADS!!

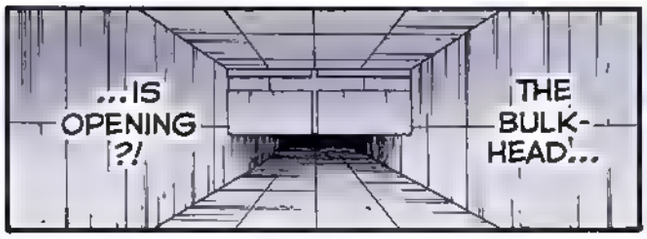

ALL THAT AND I BARELY SCORCHED THE SURFACE.
DAMN IT...
GUESS I'LL NEED TO THINK OF SOMETHING ELSE.

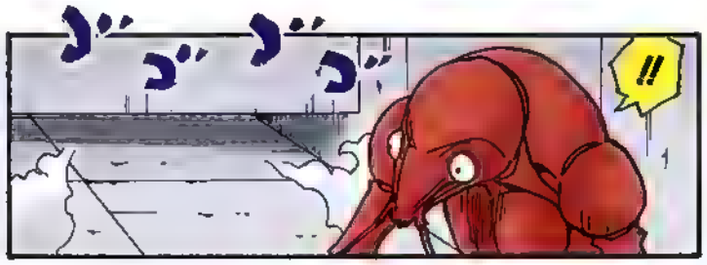

WAIT... I HAVE TO GO THROUGH A BULKHEAD TO REACH THE MONITOR ROOM.
NICE GOING !!


THERE MIGHT BE A WAY!!
WAIT...


...TO GET BACK UPSTAIRS.
DAMN IT... I STILL HAVE TO DESTROY THIS ONE...


...WITHOUT BUSTING DOWN A BULKHEAD ...!!!
A WAY TO ESCAPE...


...IS OPENING ?!
THE BULK-HEAD...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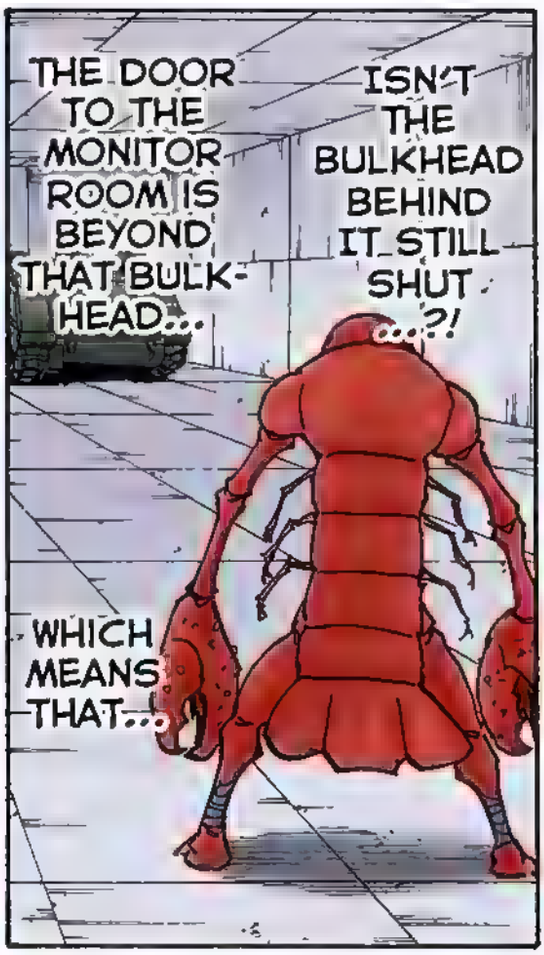
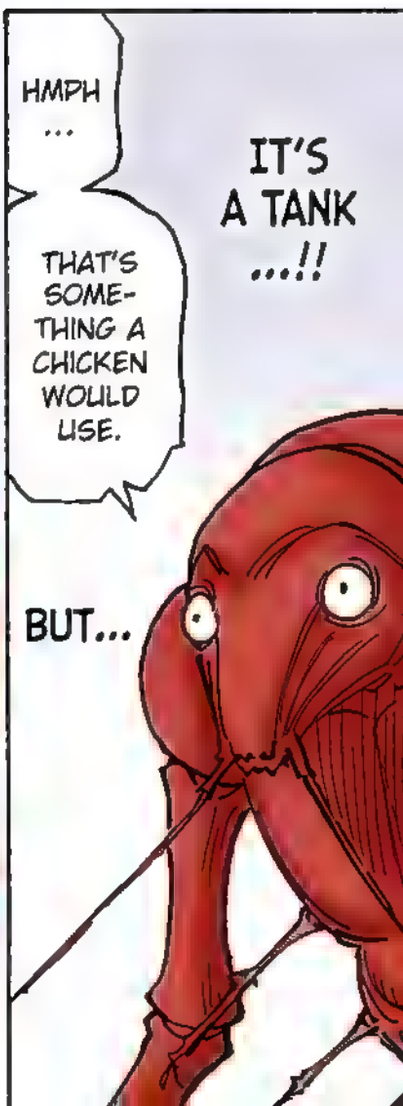
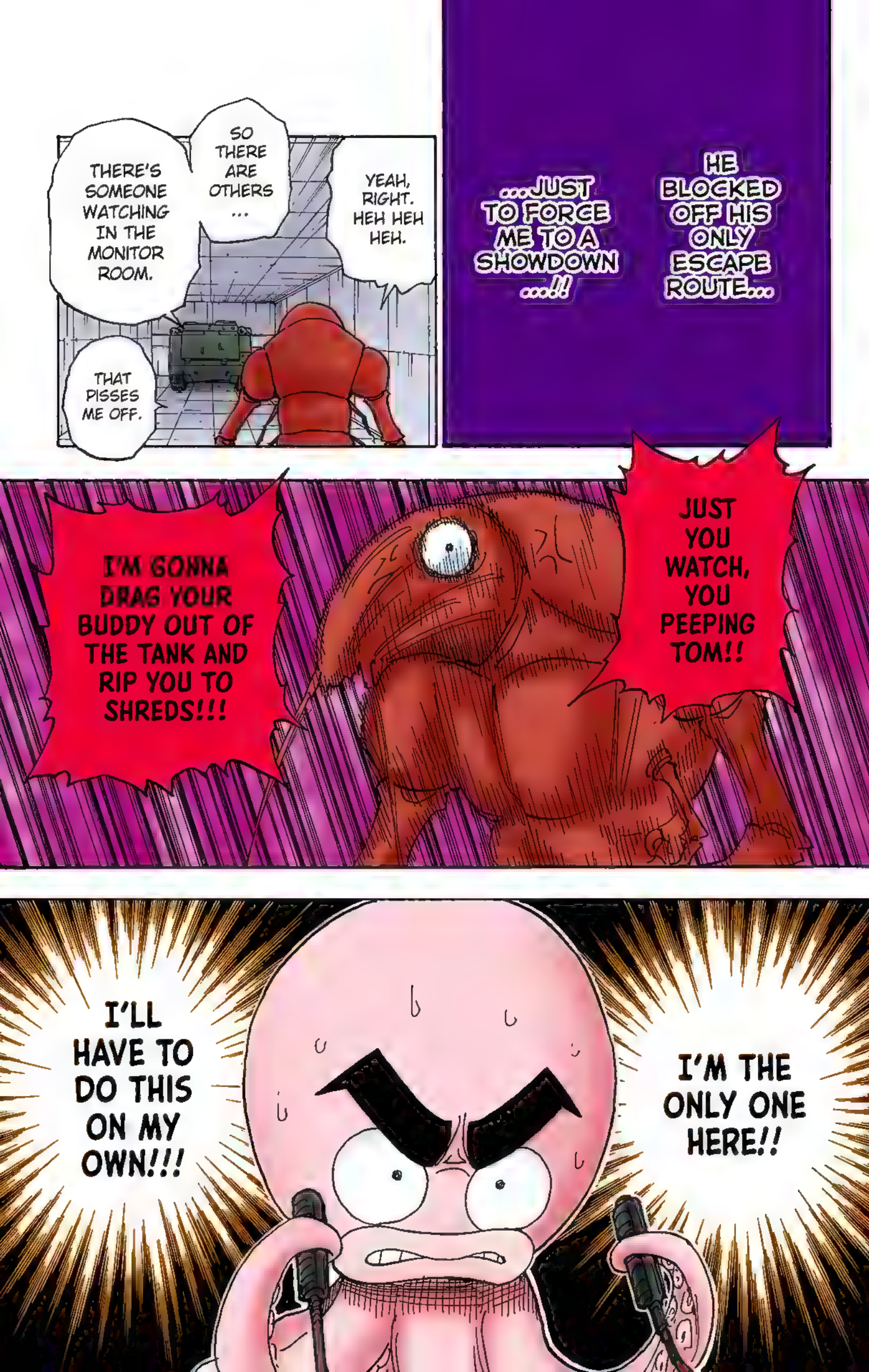
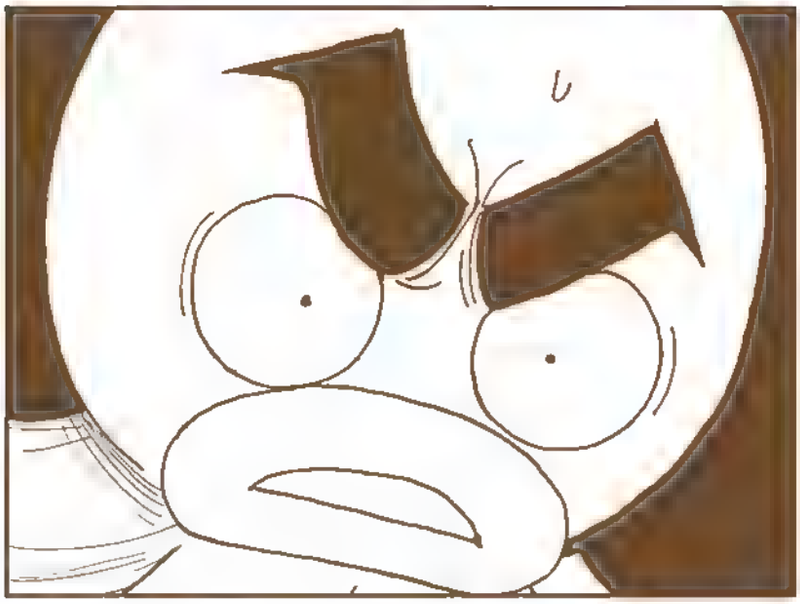
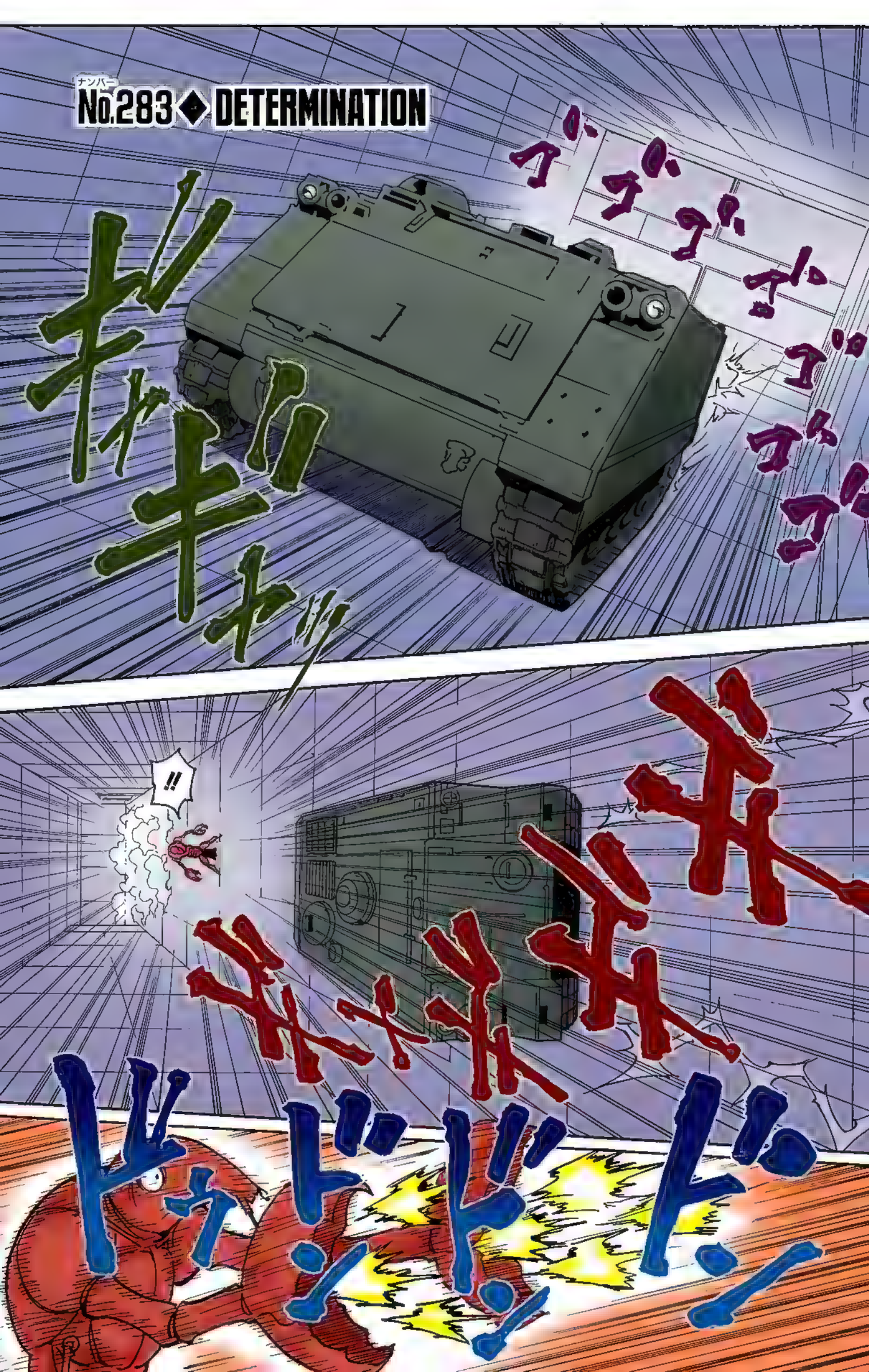





THERE'S SOMEONE WATCHING IN THE MONITOR ROOM.
SO THERE ARE OTHERS ...
YEAH, RIGHT. HEH HEH HEH.
THAT PISSES ME OFF.
...JUST TO FORCE ME TO A SHOWDOWN ....!!
HE BLOCKED OFF HIS ONLY ESCAPE ROUTE...
I'M GONNA DRAG YOUR BUDDY OUT OF THE TANK AND RIP YOU TO SHREDS!!!
JUST YOU WATCH, YOU PEEPING TOM!!
I'LL HAVE TO DO THIS ON MY OWN!!!
I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE!!




No.283 ◆ DETERMINATION
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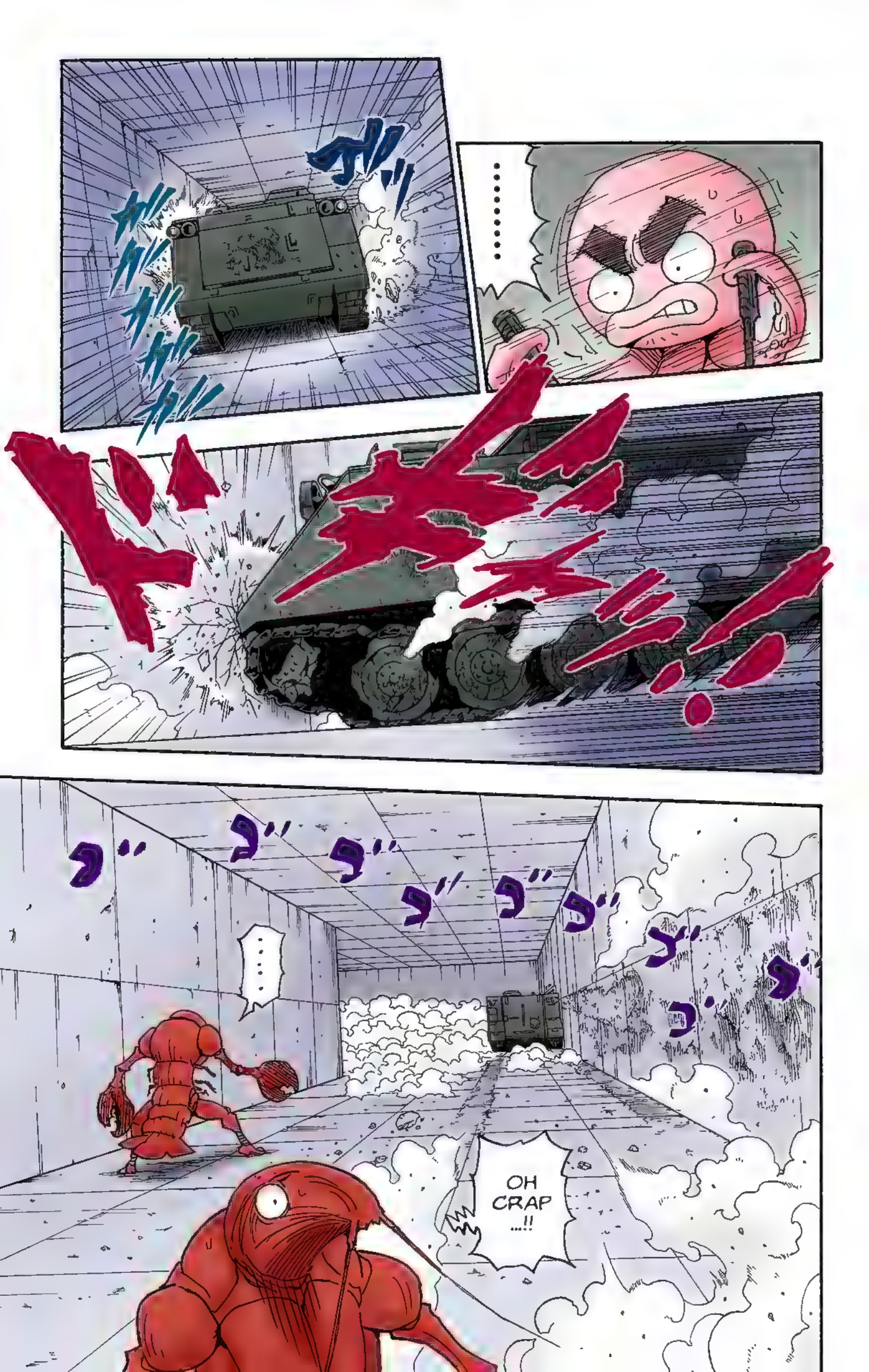
HYAH!!
UGH...
THAT'S TOUGH ARMOR !!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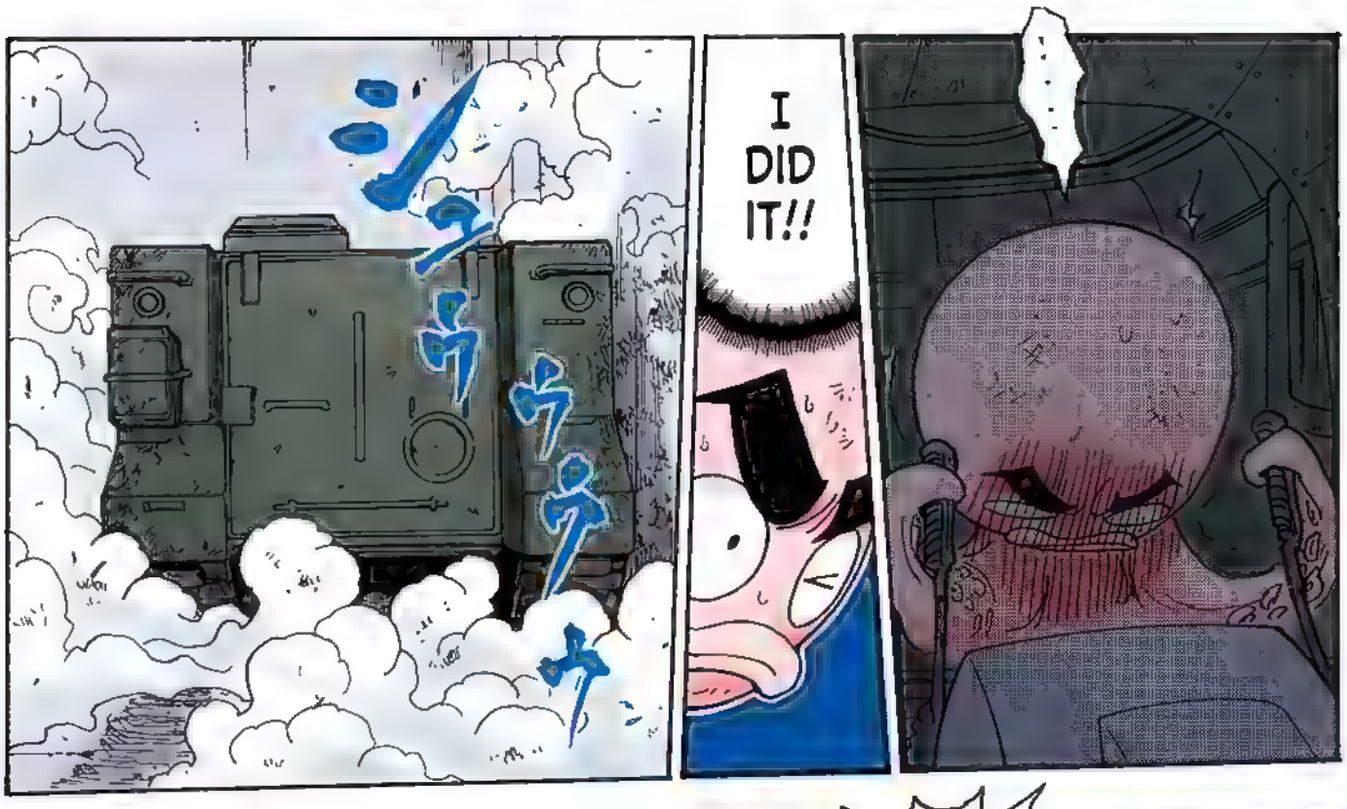
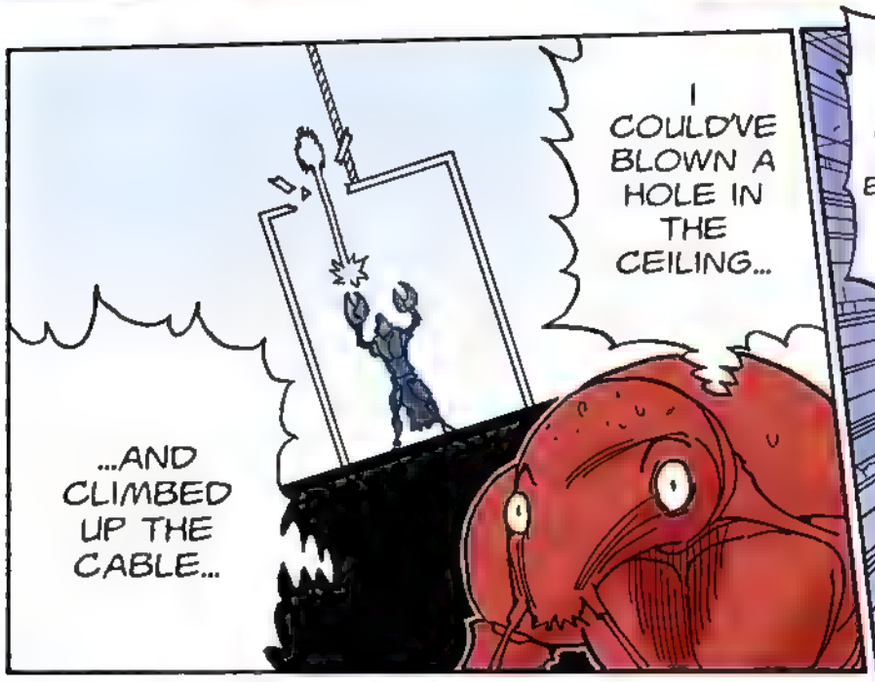
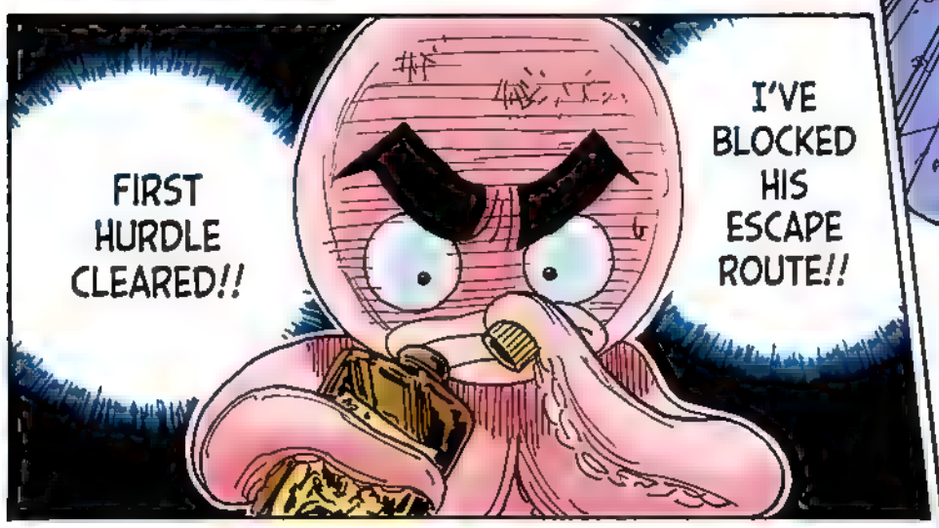
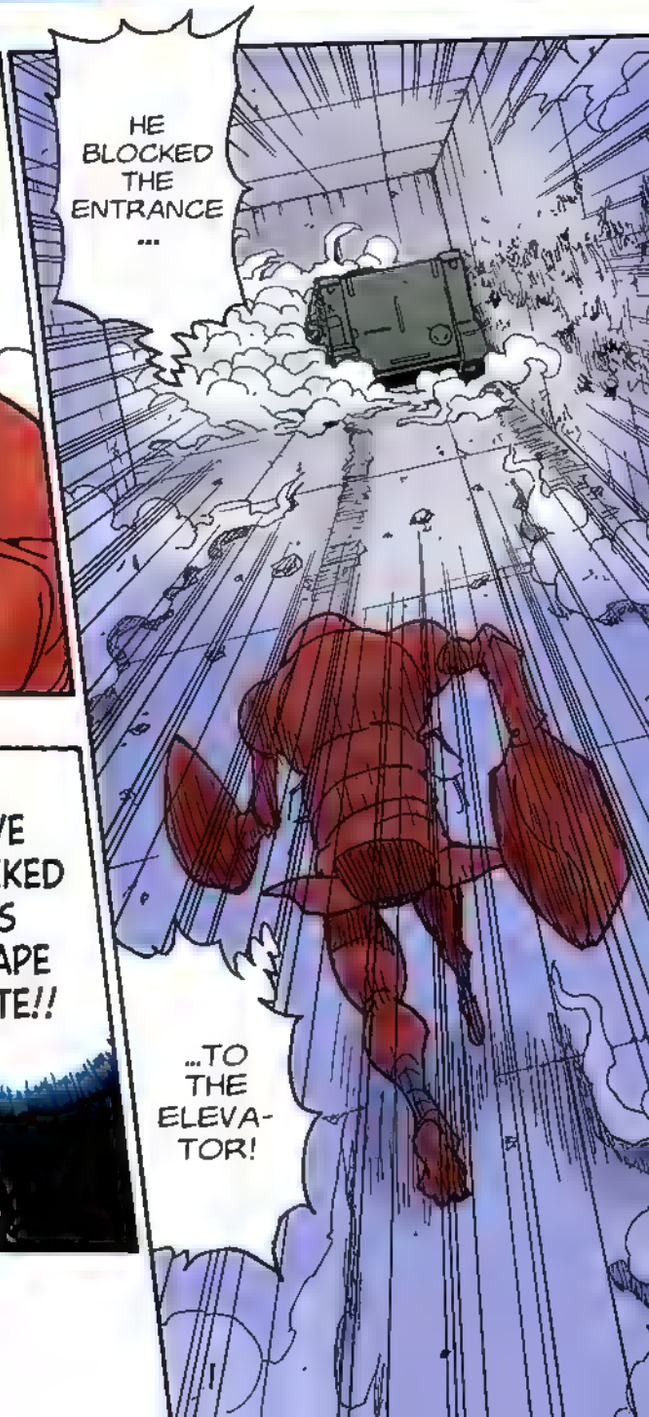
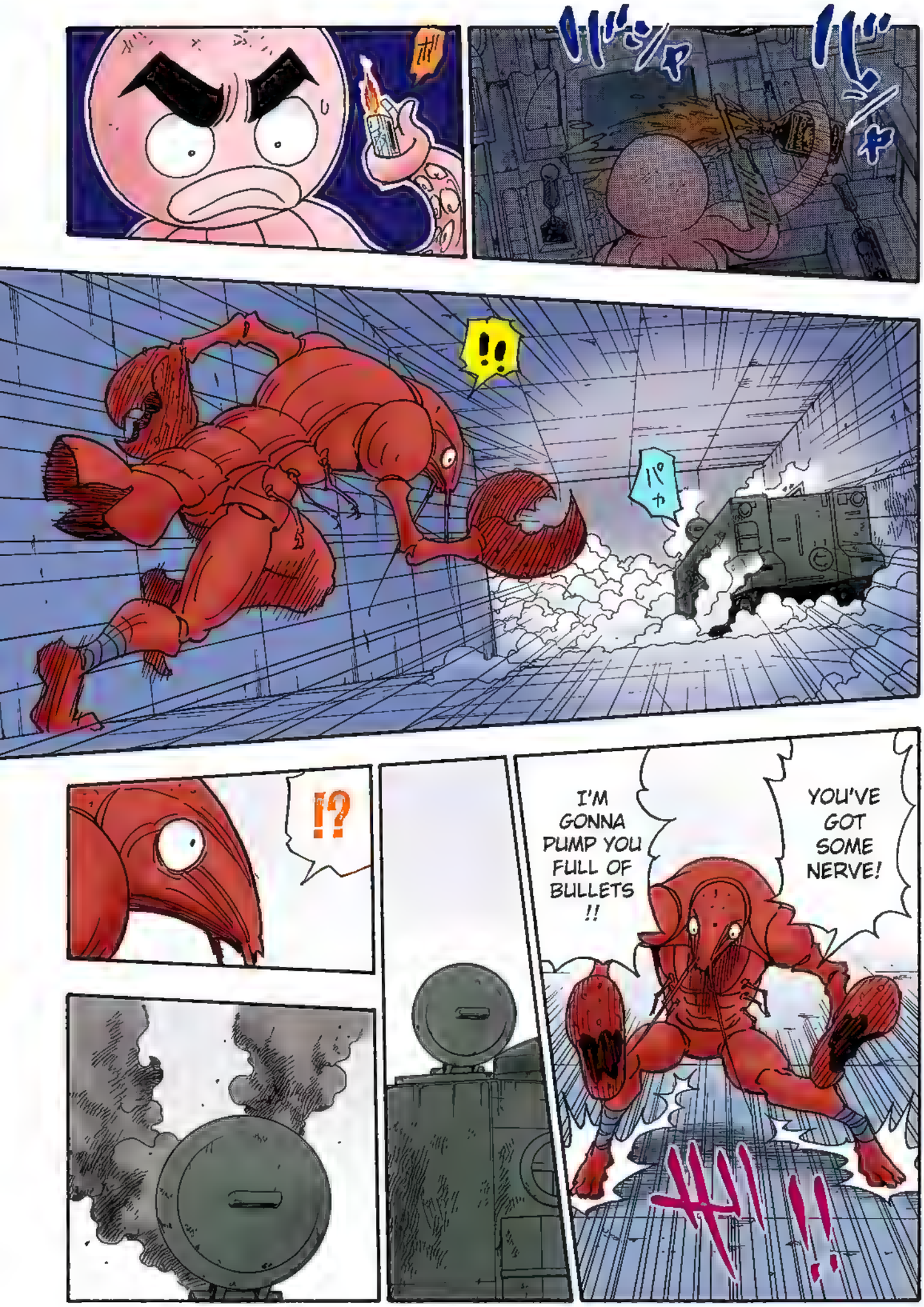
OH CRAP ...!!

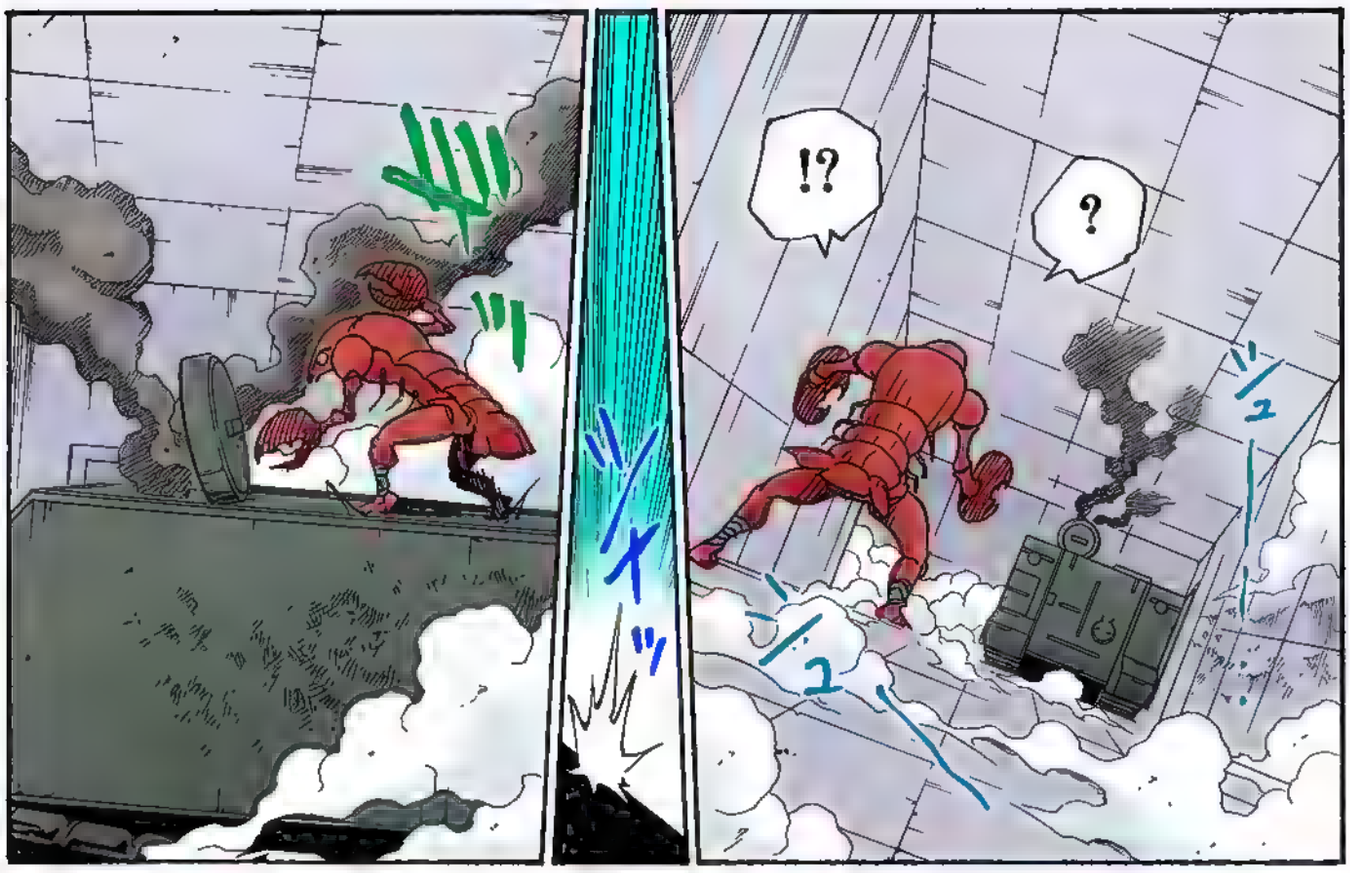

I DID IT!!


I COULD'VE BLOWN A HOLE IN THE CEILING...
...AND CLIMBED UP THE CABLE...

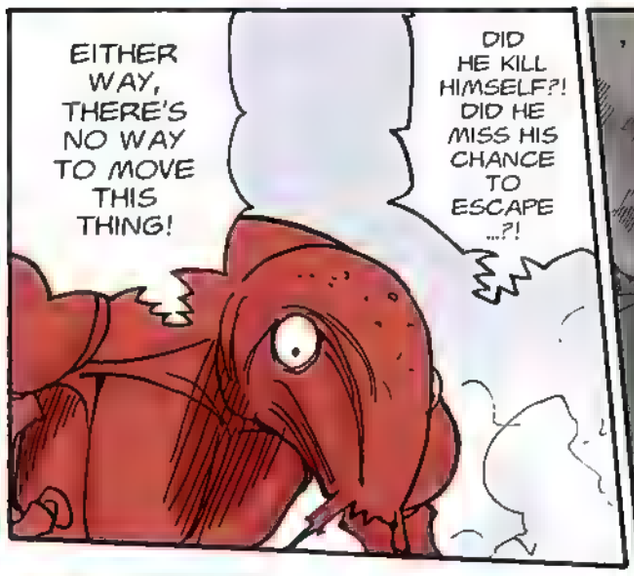

FIRST HURDLE CLEARED!!
I'VE BLOCKED HIS ESCAPE ROUTE!!

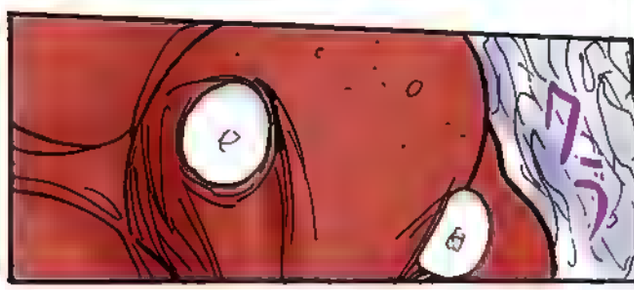

HE BLOCKED THE ENTRANCE ...
...TO THE ELEVA-TOR!

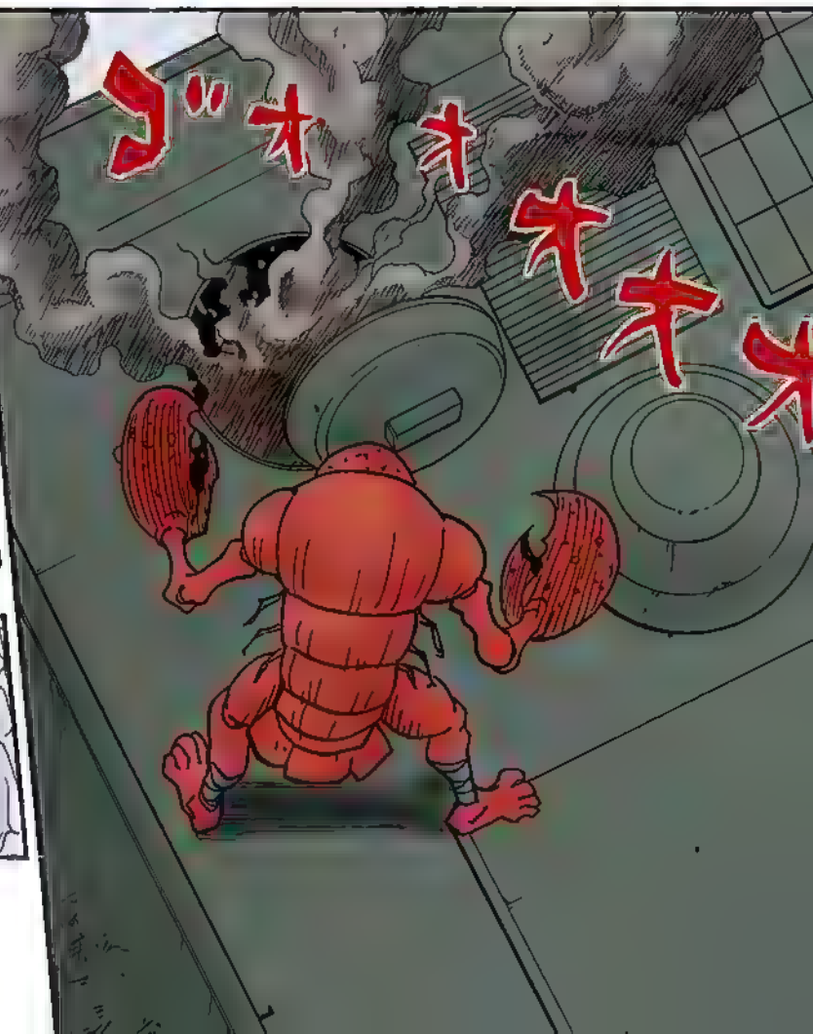

!!
!?
I'M GONNA PUMP YOU FULL OF BULLETS !!
YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE!


!?
?

AH...


EITHER WAY, THERE'S NO WAY TO MOVE THIS THING!
DID HE KILL HIMSELF?! DID HE MISS HIS CHANCE TO ESCAPE ...?!

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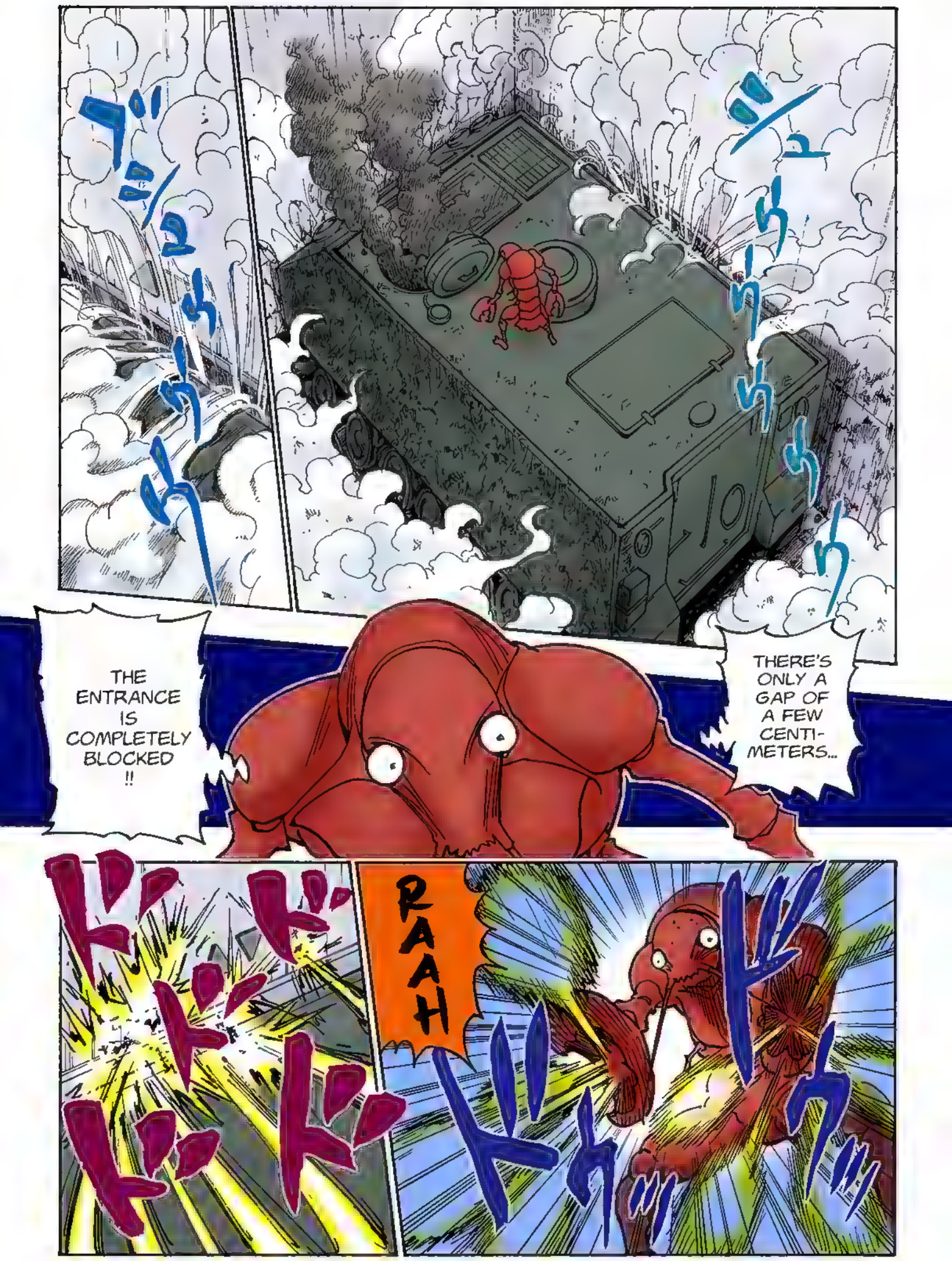
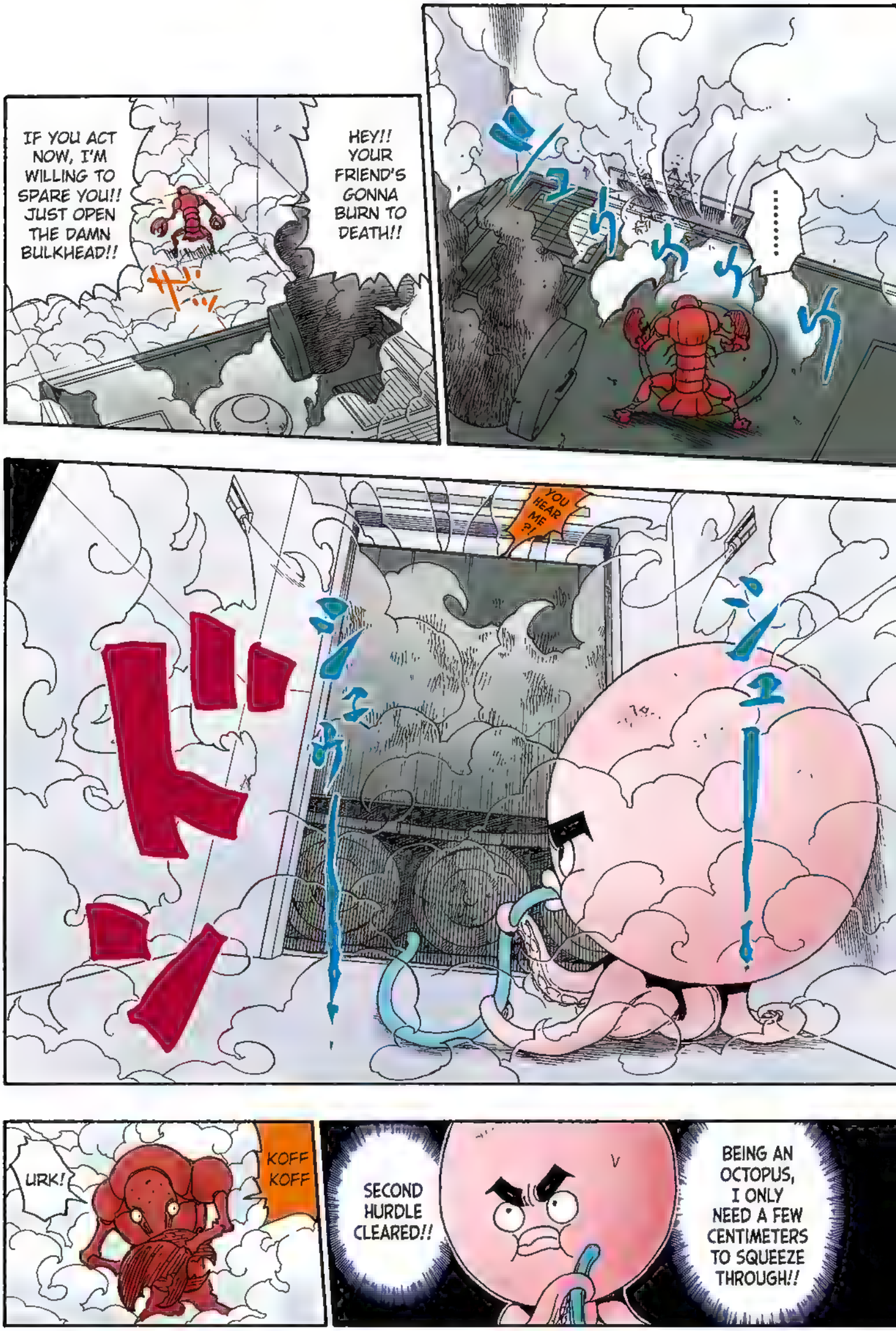
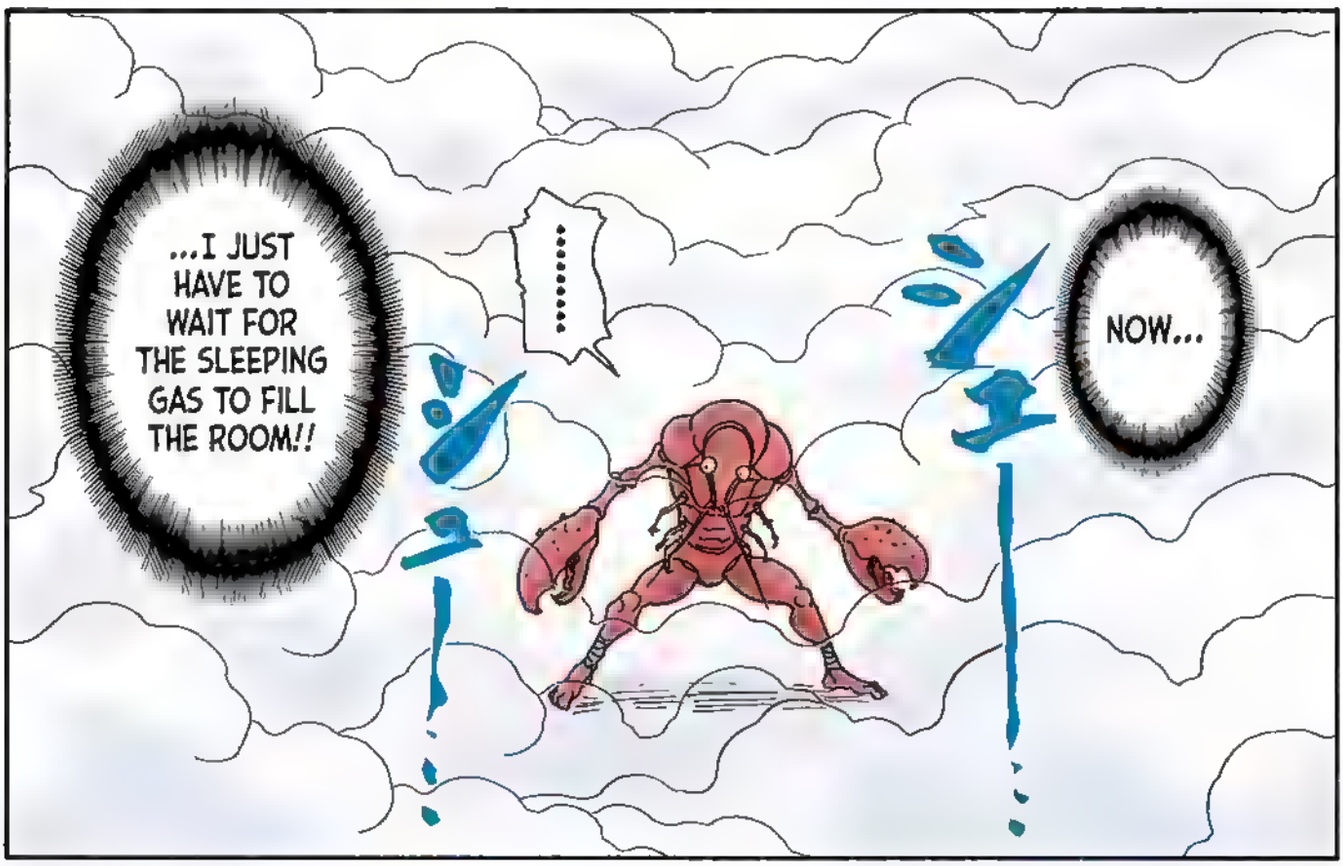
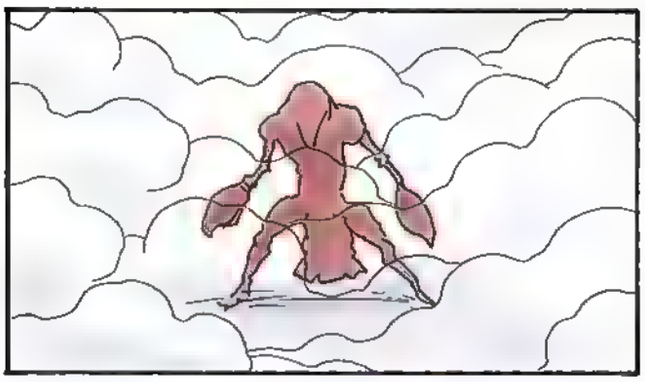
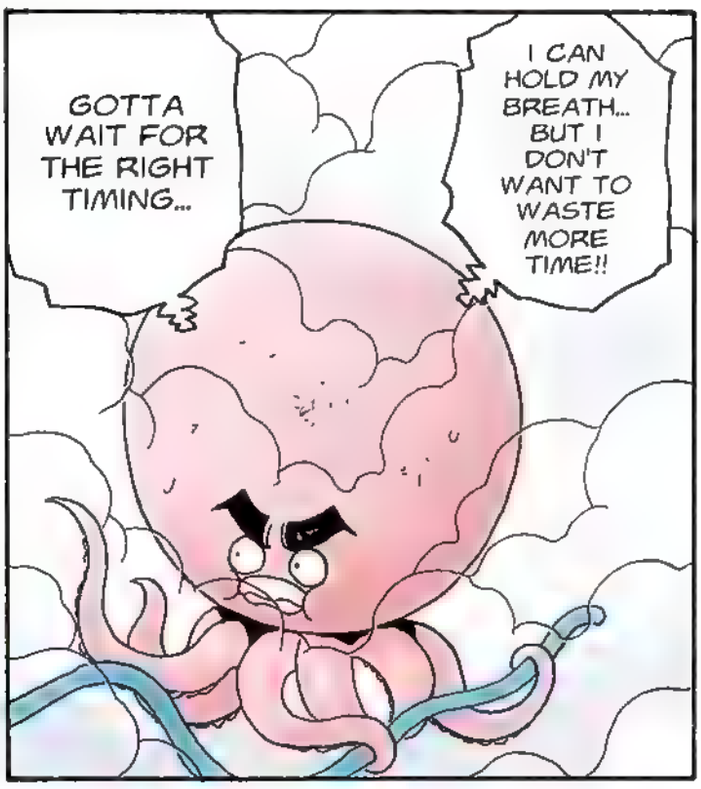
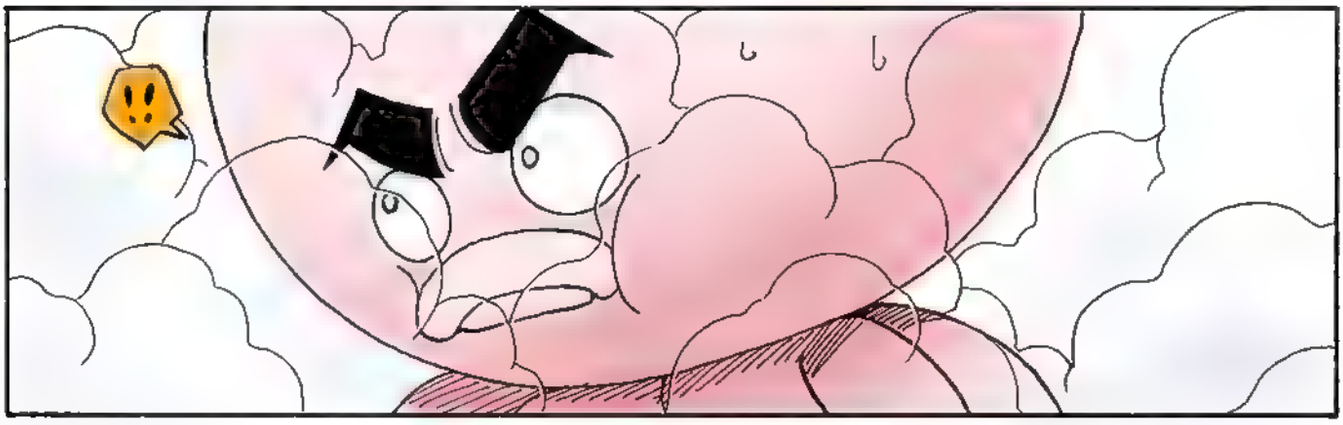

THE ENTRANCE IS COMPLETELY BLOCKED !!
THERE'S ONLY A GAP OF A FEW CENTI-METERS...
RAAH

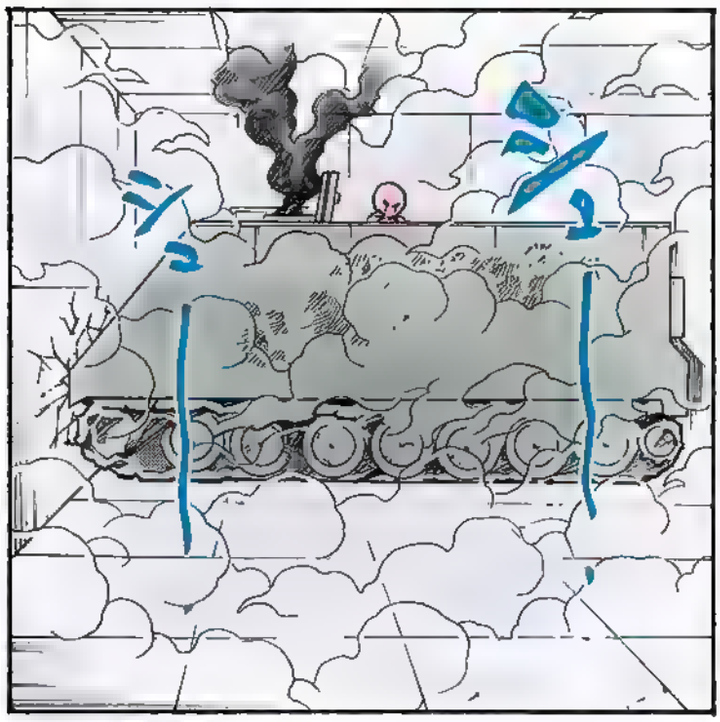

IF YOU ACT NOW, I'M WILLING TO SPARE YOU!! JUST OPEN THE DAMN BULKHEAD!!
HEY!! YOUR FRIEND'S GONNA BURN TO DEATH!!
YOU HEAR ME ?!
URK!
KOFF KOFF
SECOND HURDLE CLEARED!!
BEING AN OCTOPUS, I ONLY NEED A FEW CENTIMETERS TO SQUEEZE THROUGH!!


...I JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE SLEEPING GAS TO FILL THE ROOM!!
.....
NOW...




GOTTA WAIT FOR THE RIGHT TIMING...
I CAN HOLD MY BREATH... BUT I DON'T WANT TO WASTE MORE TIME!!

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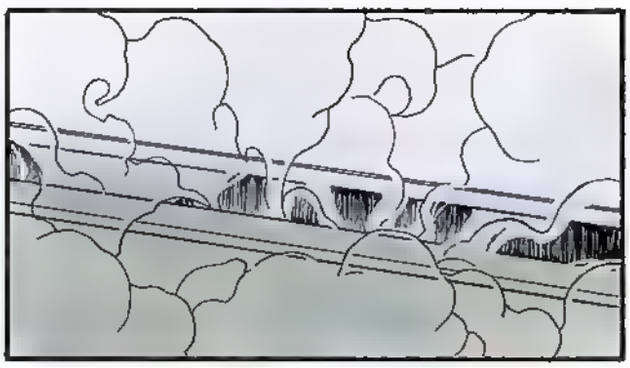

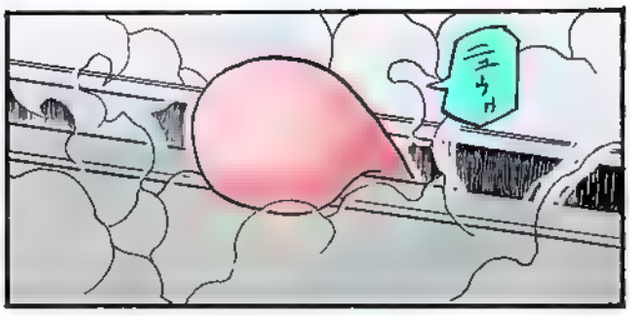
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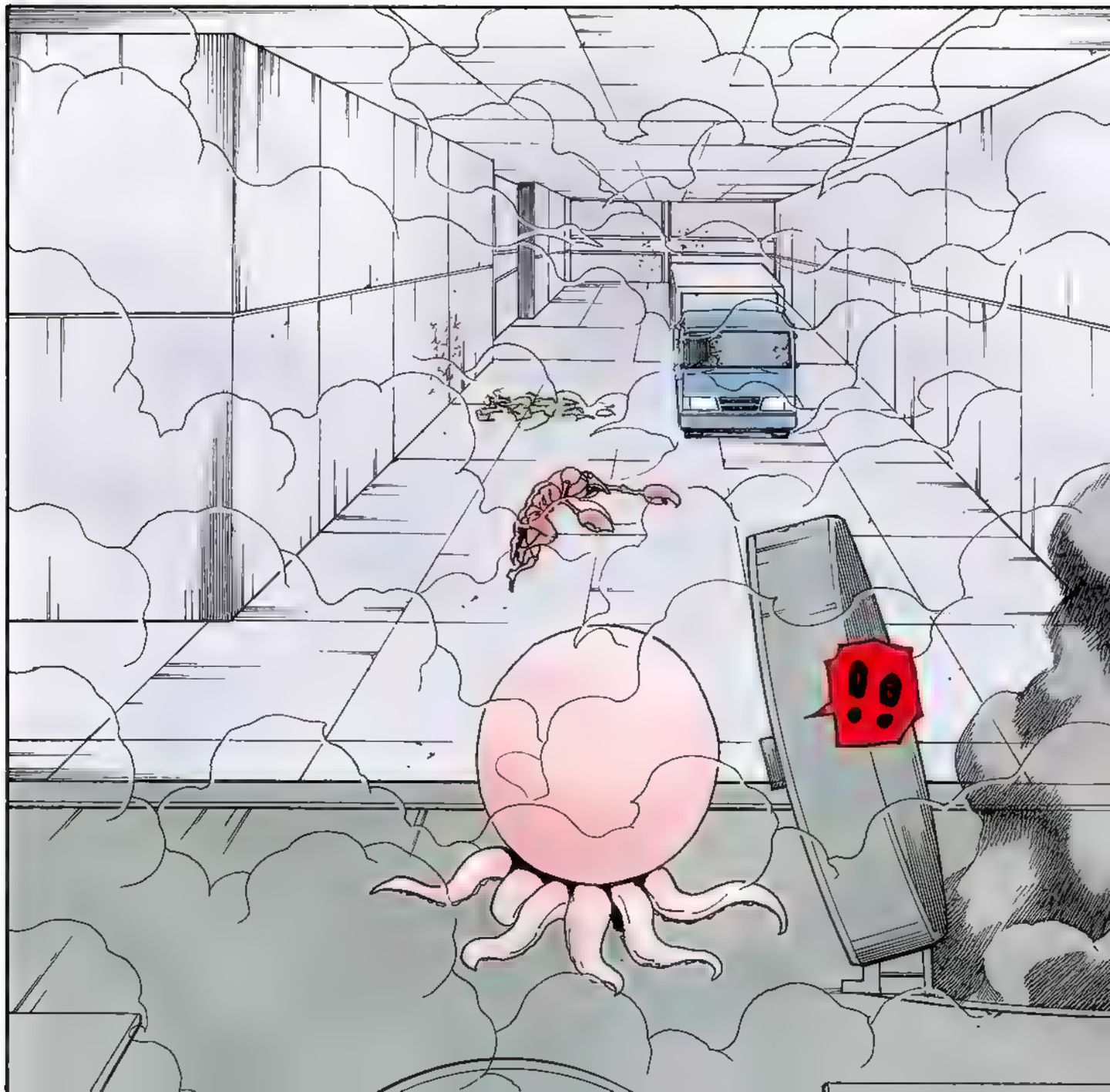
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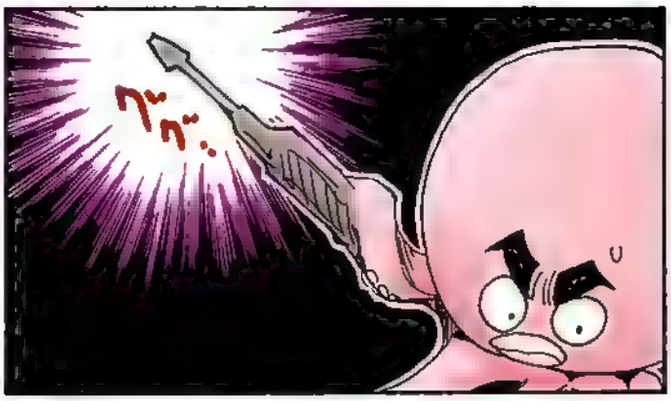
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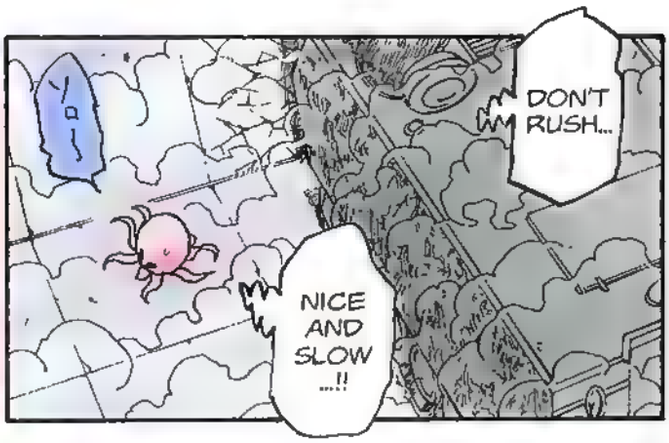
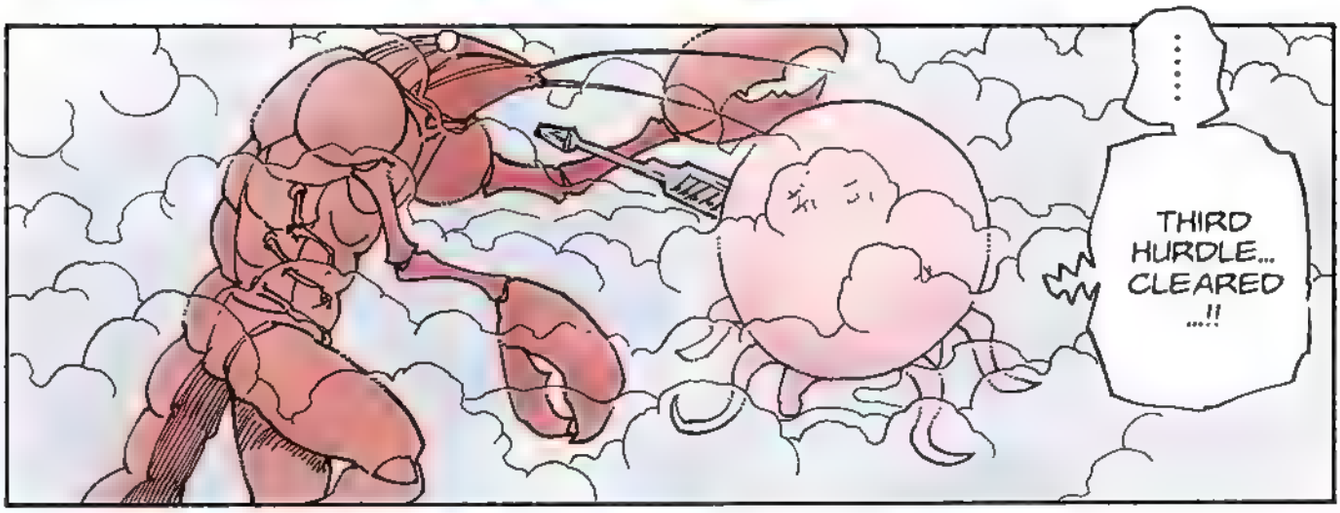

DON'T RUSH...
NICE AND SLOW ...!!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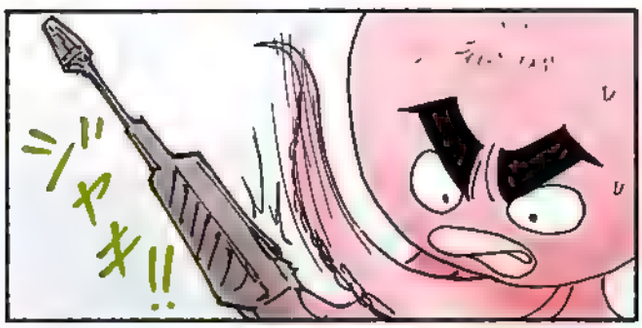
THIRD HURDLE... CLEARED ...!!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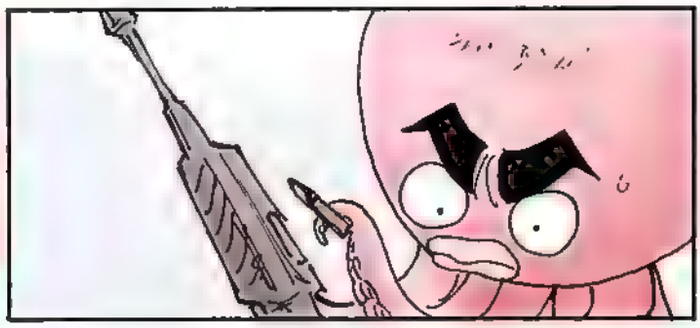

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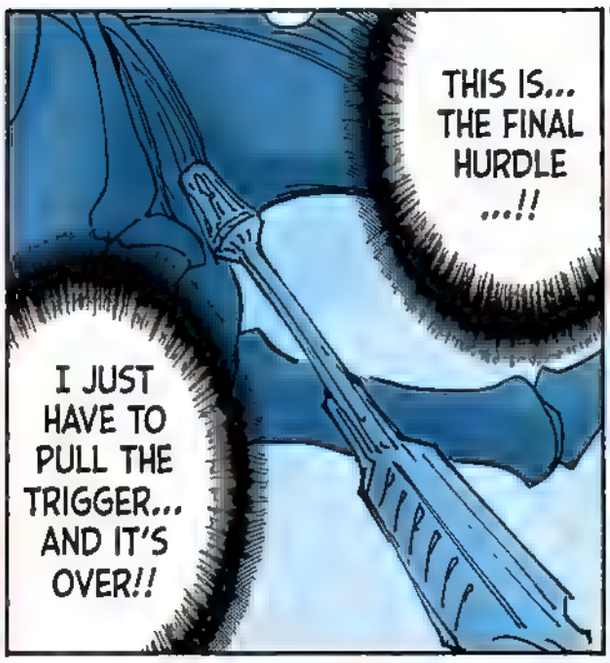
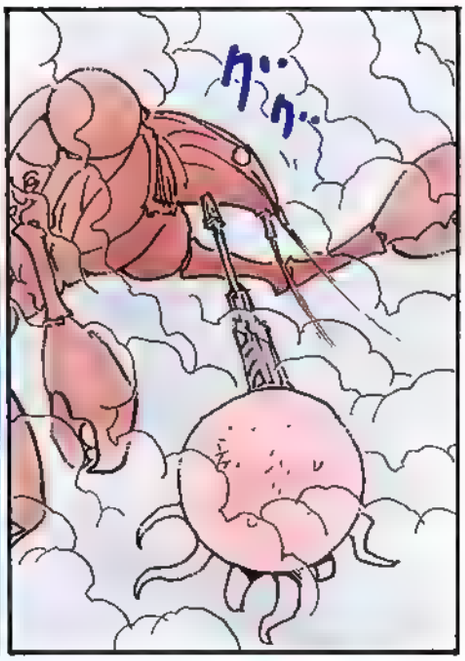

THIS IS... THE FINAL HURDLE ...!!
I JUST HAVE TO PULL THE TRIGGER... AND IT'S OVER!!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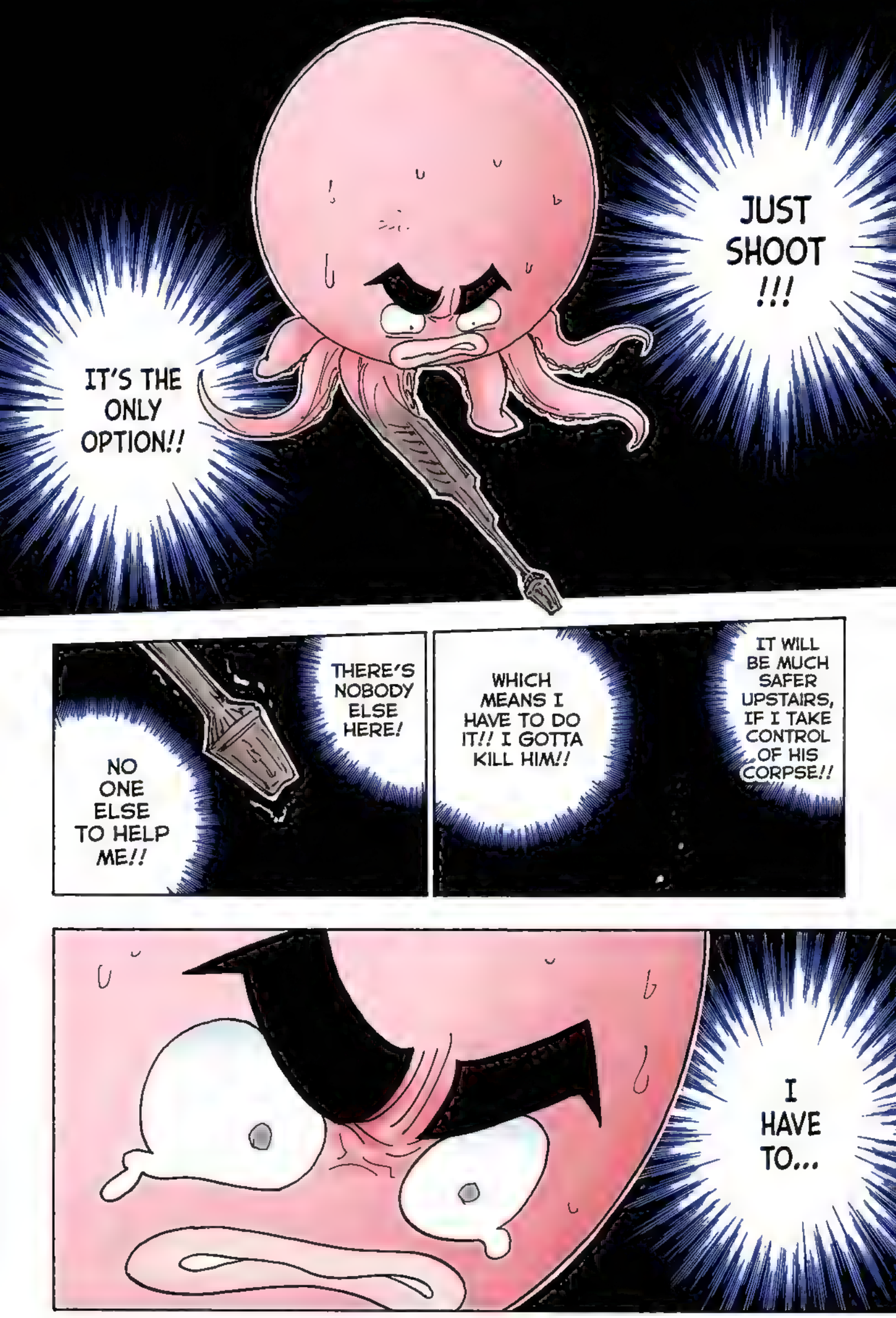
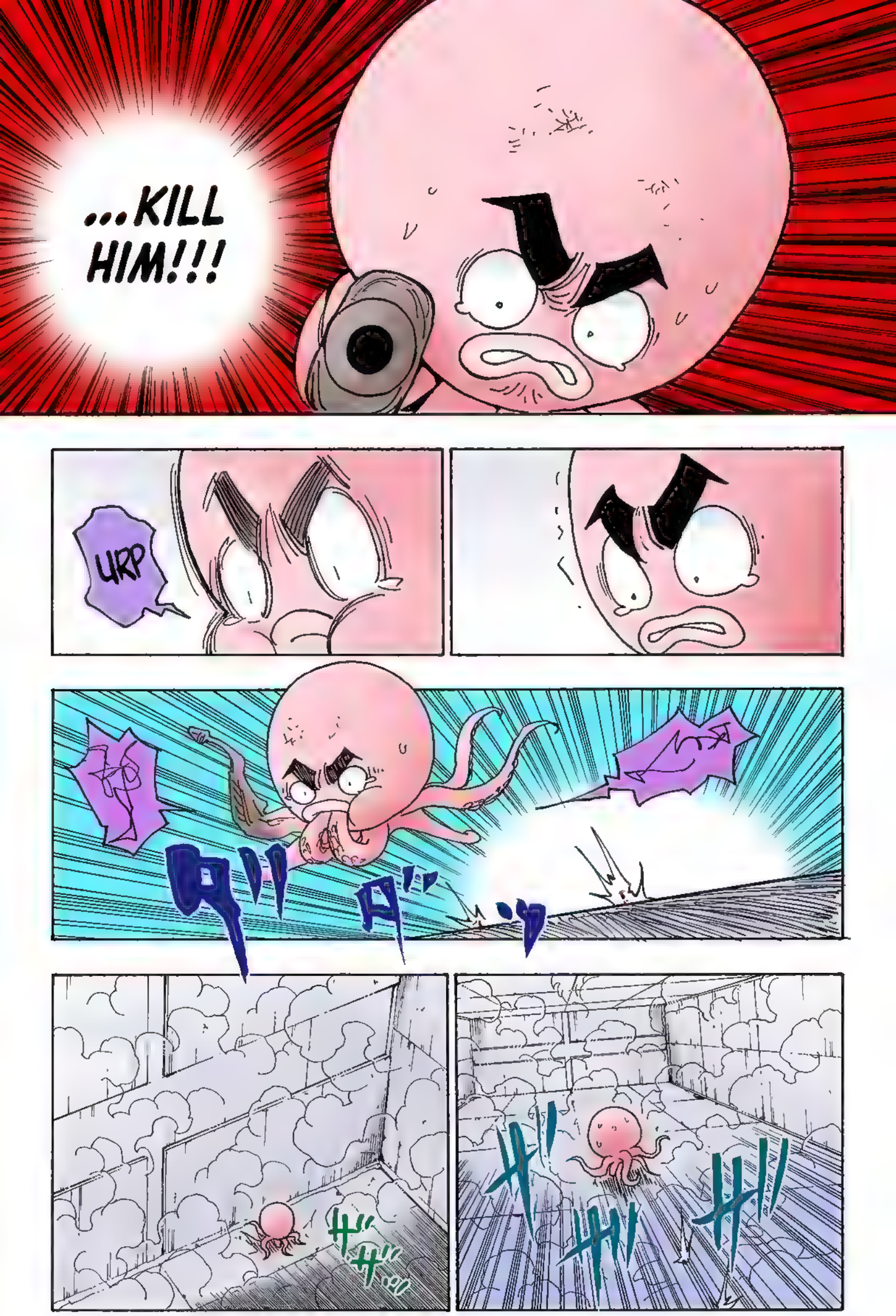
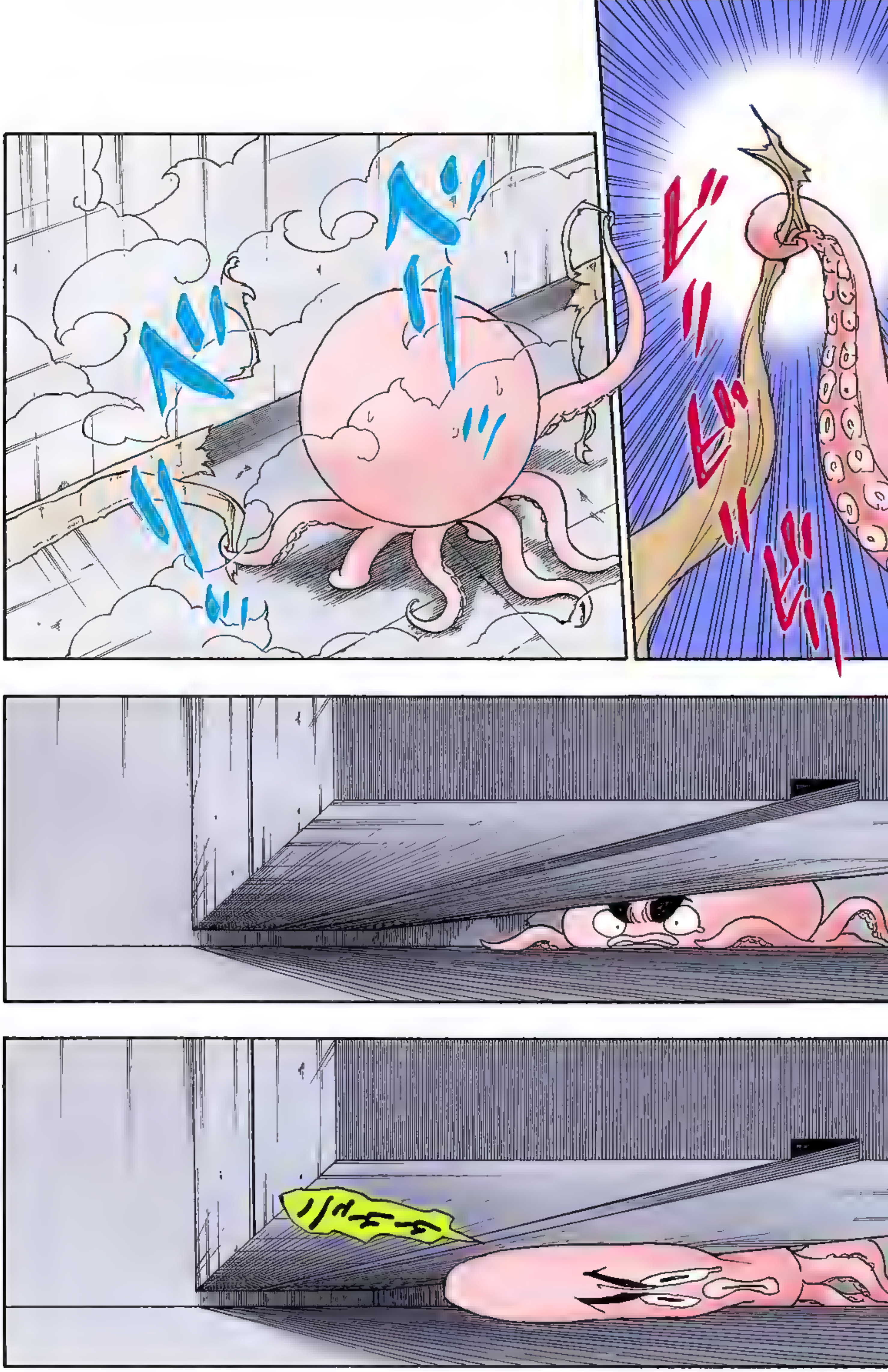

JUST SHOOT !!!
IT'S THE ONLY OPTION!!
THERE'S NOBODY ELSE HERE!
NO ONE ELSE TO HELP ME!!
WHICH MEANS I HAVE TO DO IT!! I GOTTA KILL HIM!!
IT WILL BE MUCH SAFER UPSTAIRS, IF I TAKE CONTROL OF HIS CORPSE!!
I HAVE TO...


...KILL HIM!!!
URP



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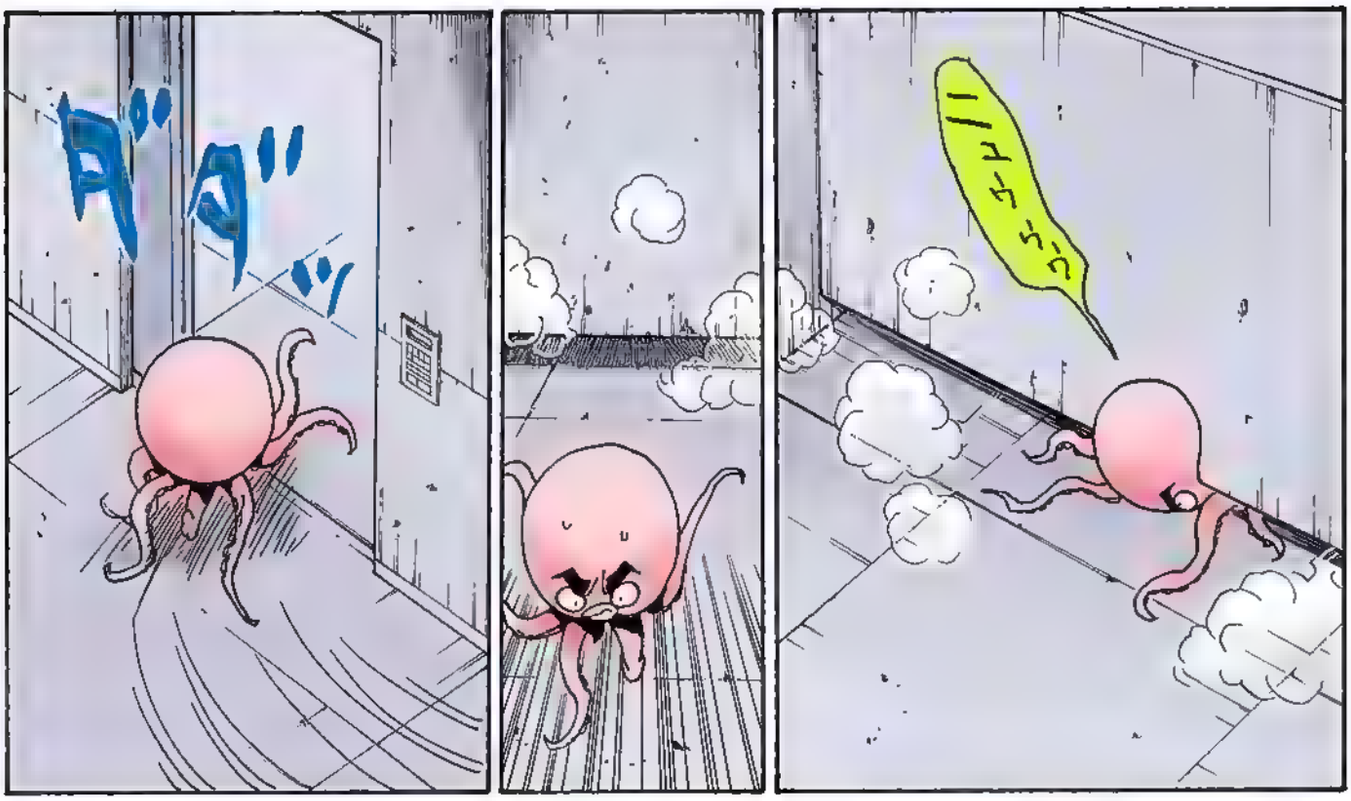
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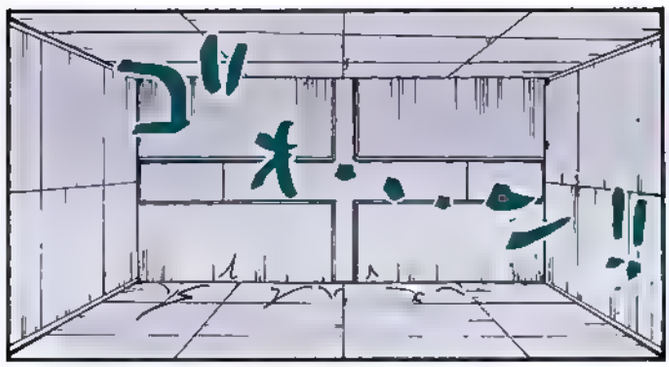
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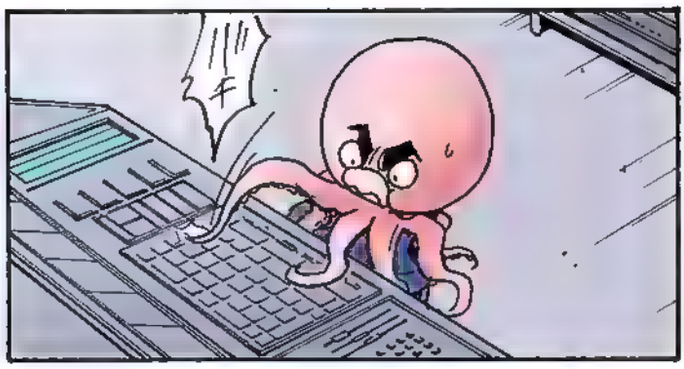
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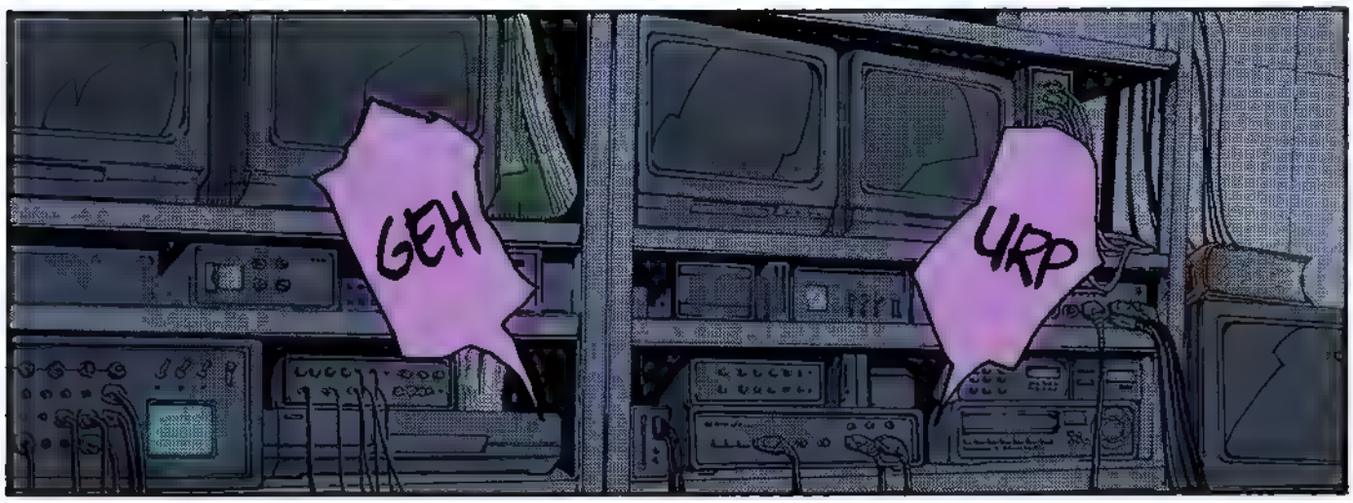
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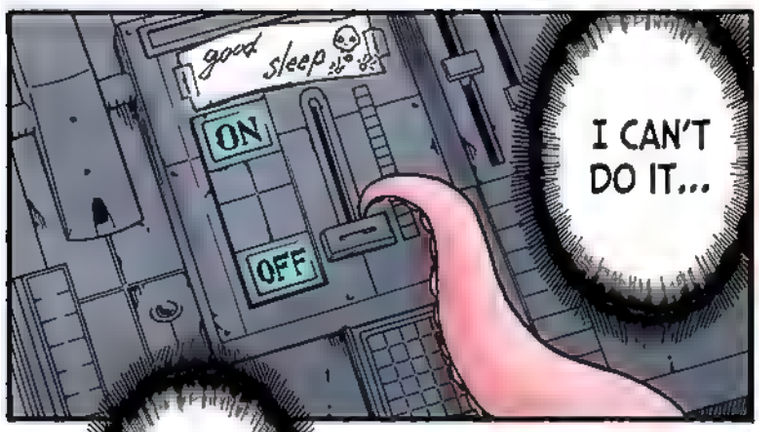
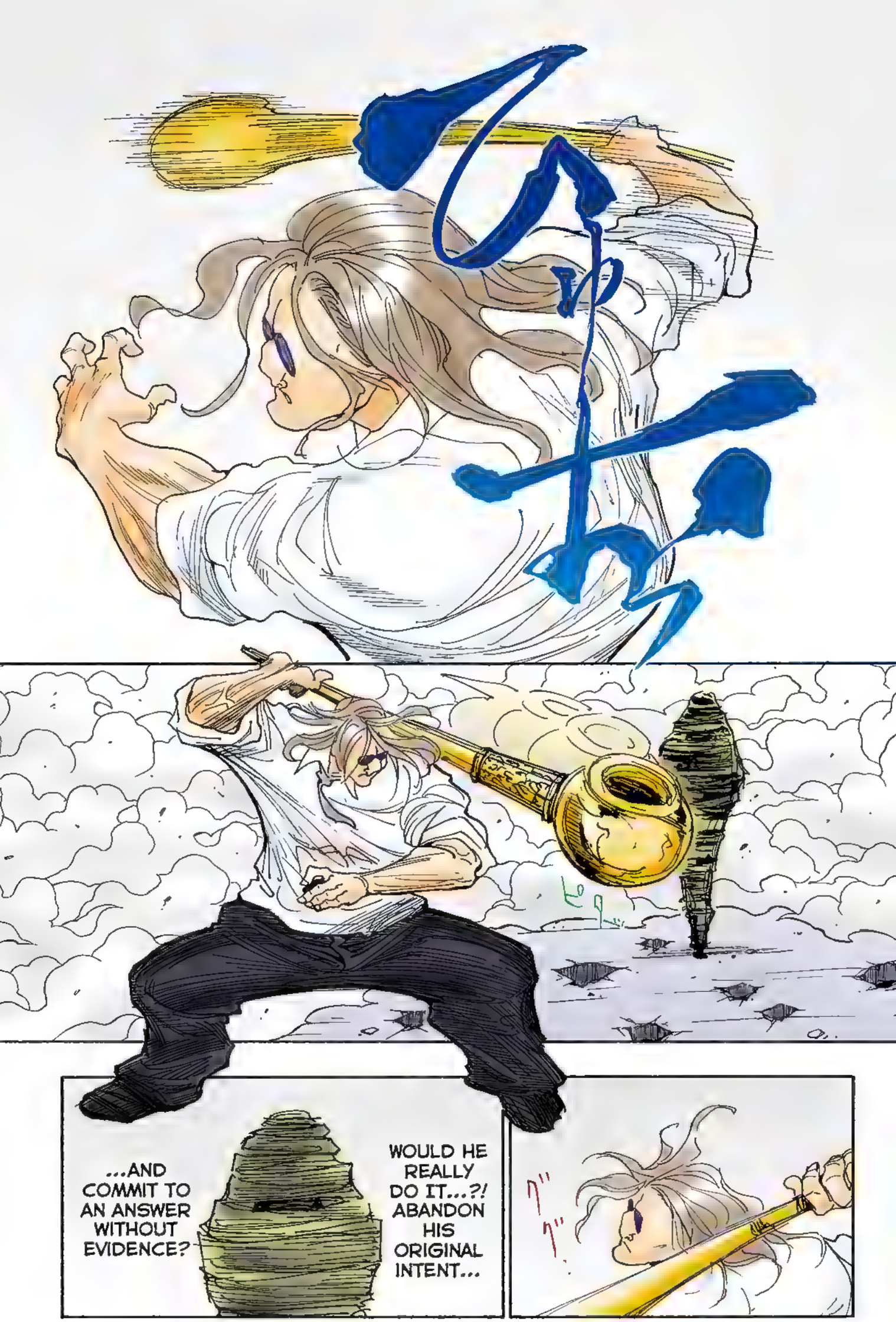
URP



GAAAH...

...I'M A COWARD ...!!!


...AND COMMIT TO AN ANSWER WITHOUT EVIDENCE?
WOULD HE REALLY DO IT...?! ABANDON HIS ORIGINAL INTENT...

ドン
HE CAN'T POSSI-BLY...
NO...

"SMOKY JAIL"

DEAC-TIVATED!!

I SEE ...

...SO YOU'VE MADE YOUR DECISION ?

WHICH ONLY MADE ME THINK THAT "YOU" WEREN'T THERE ALL.

"IT MADE NO SENSE THAT YOU SHOWED NO SIGN OF *'REACTING'* AT ALL."

YOUR LACK OF REACTION WHEN I LIFTED MY PIPE TO STRIKE YOU CONFIRMED IT...

IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT WHEN YOU WENT INTO HIDING, IT WAS A TRAP.

IN RETROSPECT, IT WAS PRETTY SIMPLE. AFTER SEEING MY "DELAYED MOVE", YOU USED YOUR PUPA.

?

HEH

HEH

15 MINUTES ...

No.284 ◆ FIFTEEN MINUTES

THAT'S HOW LONG I EXPECTED YOU TO TAKE BEFORE DECIDING TO "*DEACTIVATE YOUR SMOKE BARRIER*"...

YES... 15 MINUTES.

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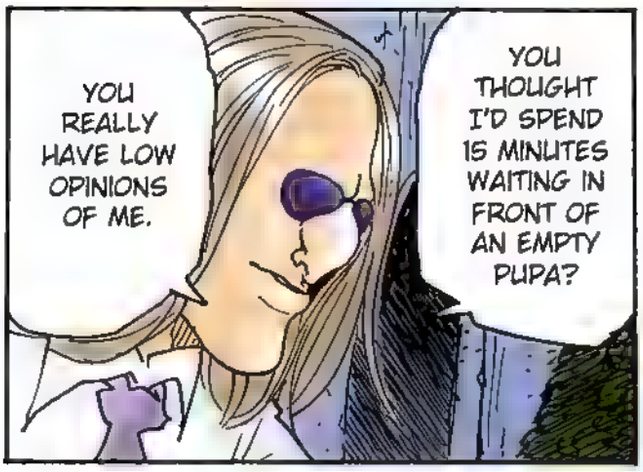
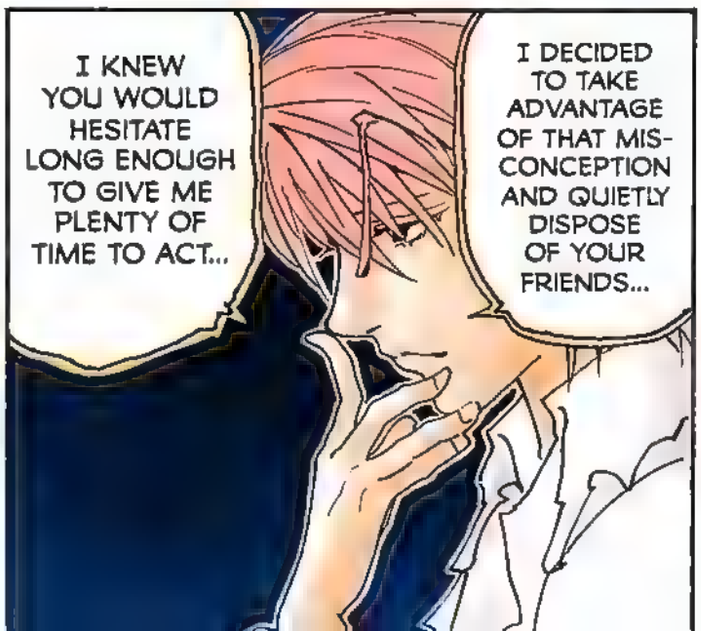
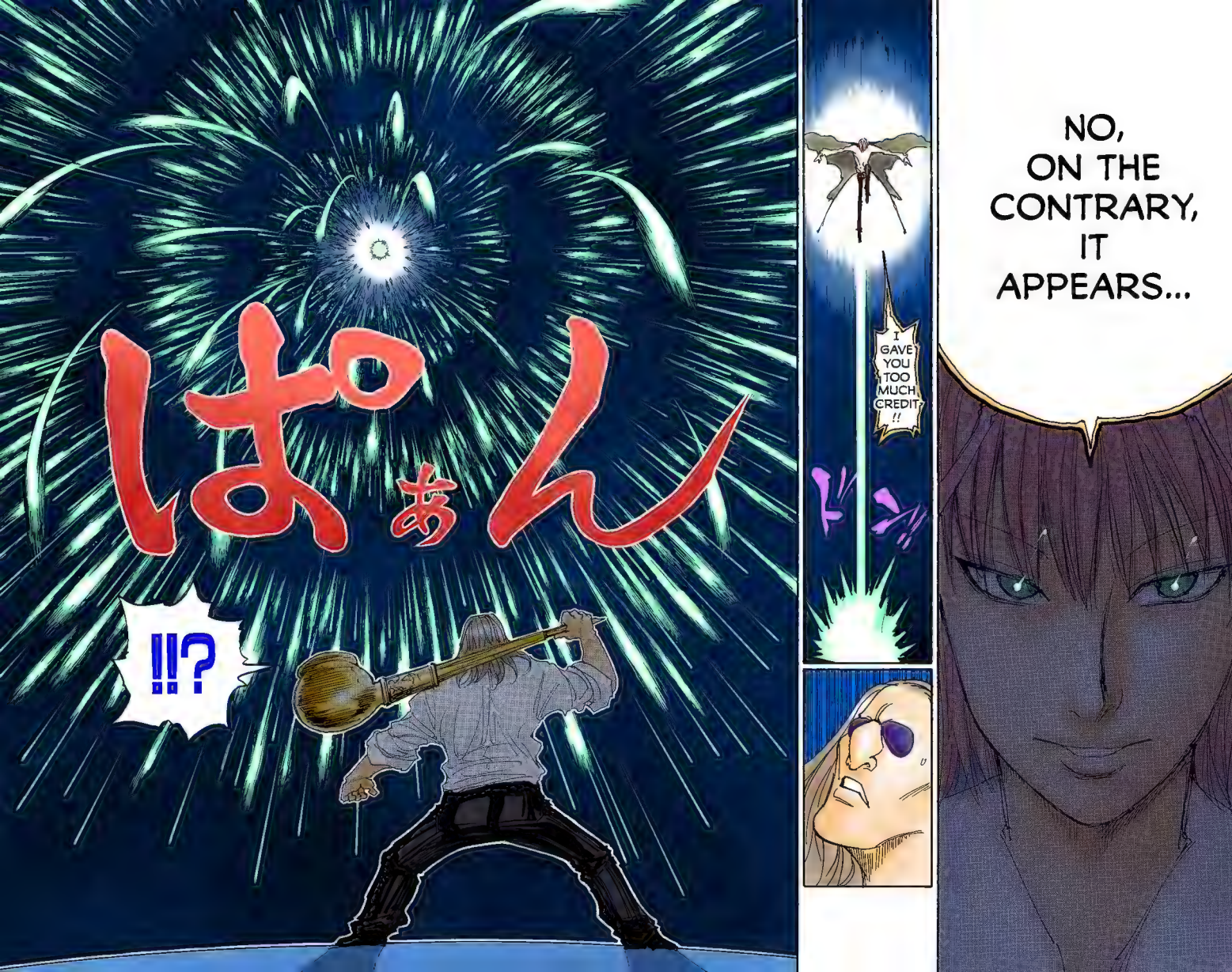
MEANING, AS LONG AS YOUR PRISON OF SMOKE WAS THERE, YOUR ALLIES WOULD SEE IT AND CONCLUDE "*THAT 'I' WAS STILL INSIDE IT.*"

YOU TRAPPED ME WITHIN THAT BARRIER TO SEPARATE ME FROM THE KING, YES?

DURING THAT TIME, "*I*" INTENDED TO SLIP THROUGH THE SMOKE AND MOVE FREELY.



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!!?
I GAVE YOU TOO MUCH CREDIT!!
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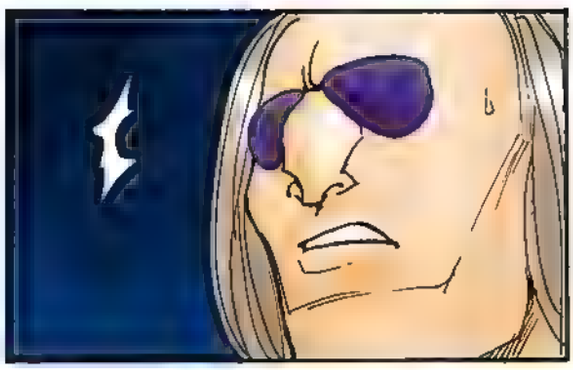
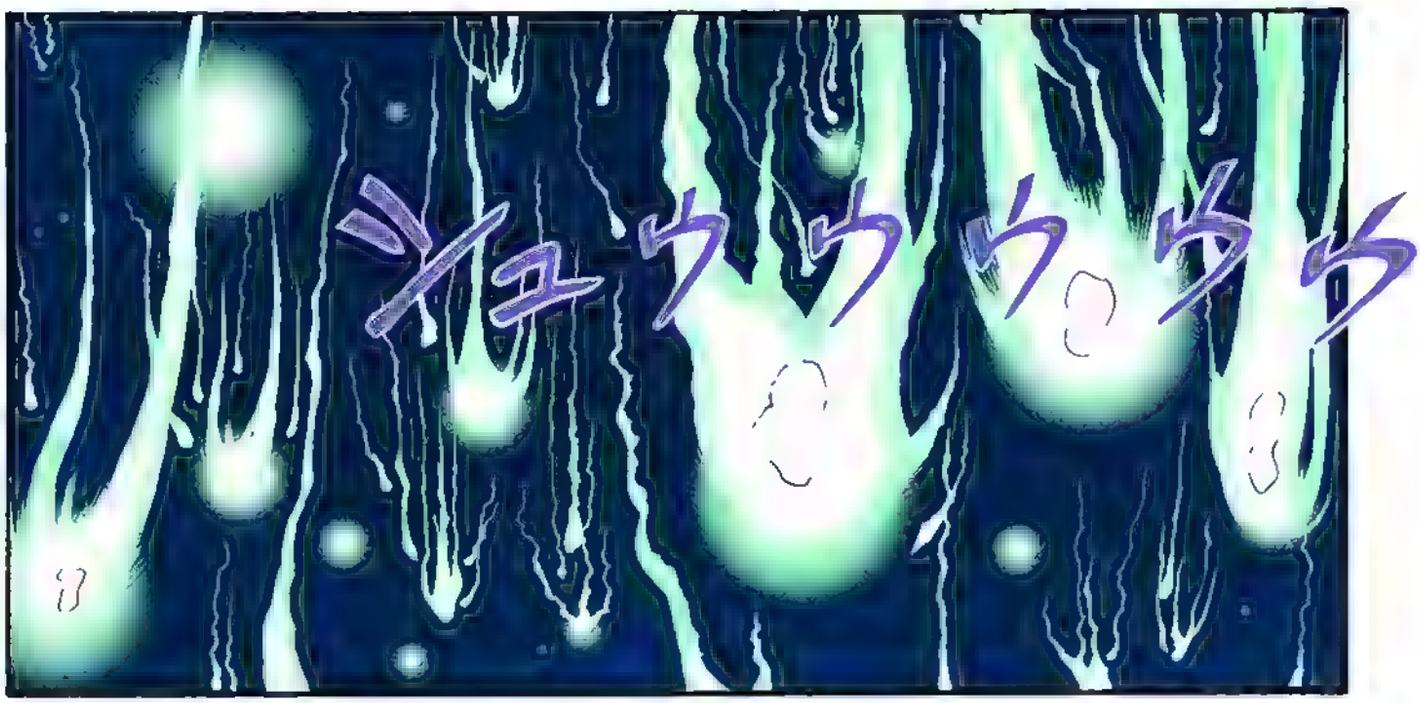
NO, ON THE CONTRARY, IT APPEARS...

.....



IF THAT'S HOW HE SLIPPED THROUGH MY "SMOKY JAIL", I WOULDN'T HAVE SEEN A THING!
HE DIVIDED INTO SUPERFINE PARTICLES, IN A FLASH...!!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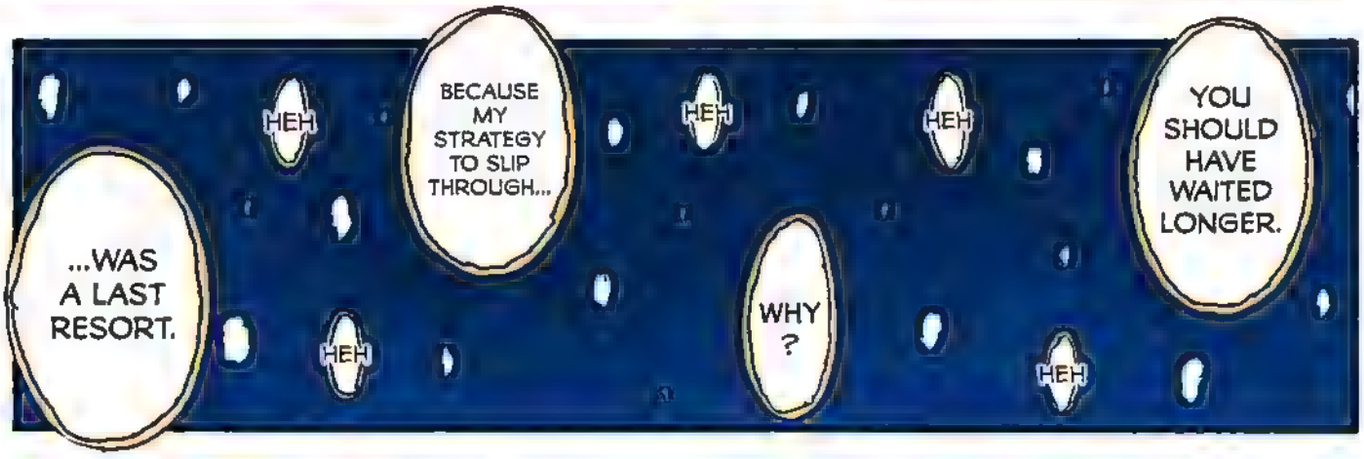
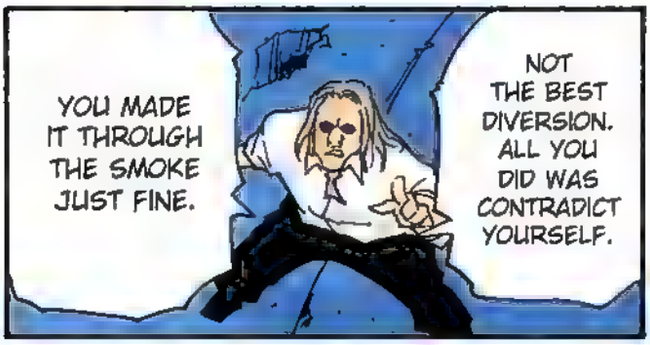
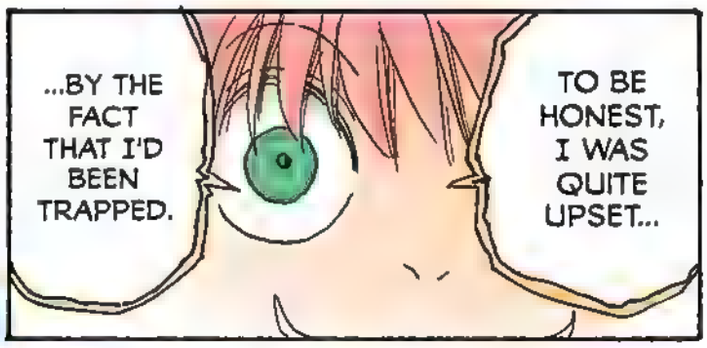
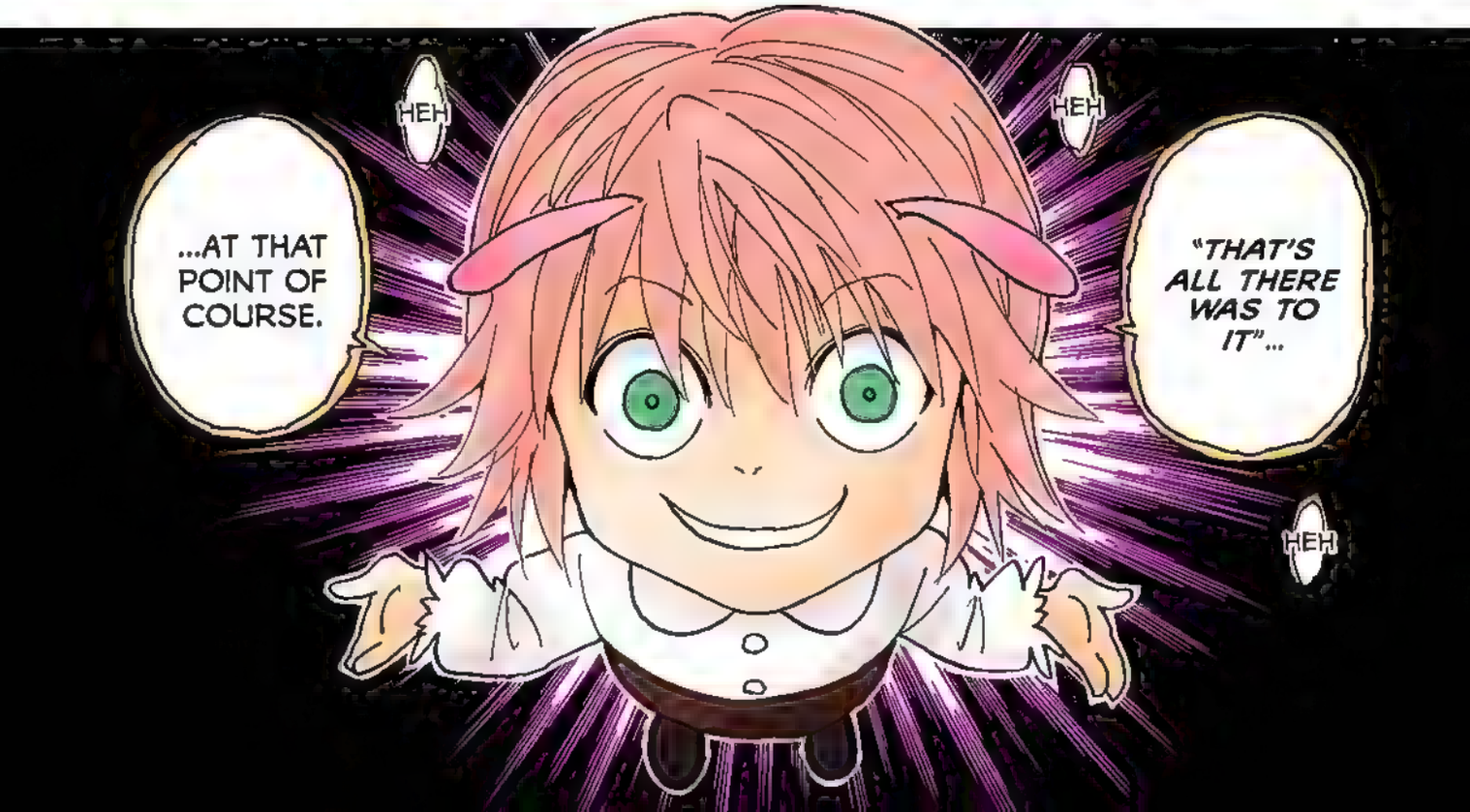

HEH
BECAUSE MY STRATEGY TO SLIP THROUGH...
HEH
HEH
YOU SHOULD HAVE WAITED LONGER.
...WAS A LAST RESORT.
HEH
WHY ?
HEH


YOU MADE IT THROUGH THE SMOKE JUST FINE.
NOT THE BEST DIVERSION. ALL YOU DID WAS CONTRADICT YOURSELF.


...BY THE FACT THAT I'D BEEN TRAPPED.
TO BE HONEST, I WAS QUITE UPSET...


HEH
HEH
...AT THAT POINT OF COURSE.
"THAT'S ALL THERE WAS TO IT"...
HEH

SO FOR THAT, I THANK YOU.
HOWEVER, YOU MADE SOME WILD GUESSES AND REMOVED THE BARRIER.
ONE WHO WOULD CARRY OUT HIS ORIGINAL PLAN AND BE FAITHFUL TO HIS MISSION.
I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU WERE A MORE CAPABLE SOLDIER.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
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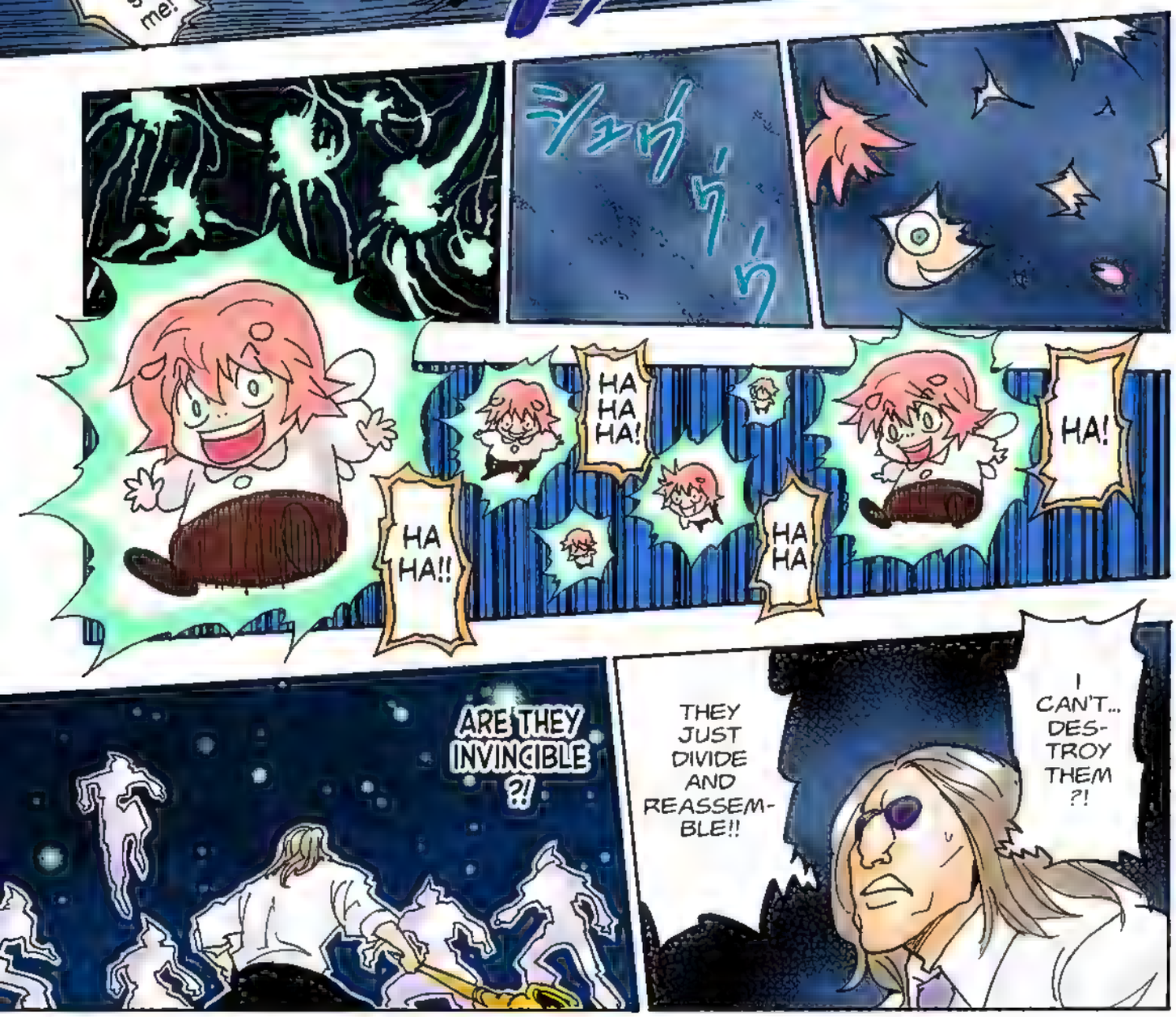
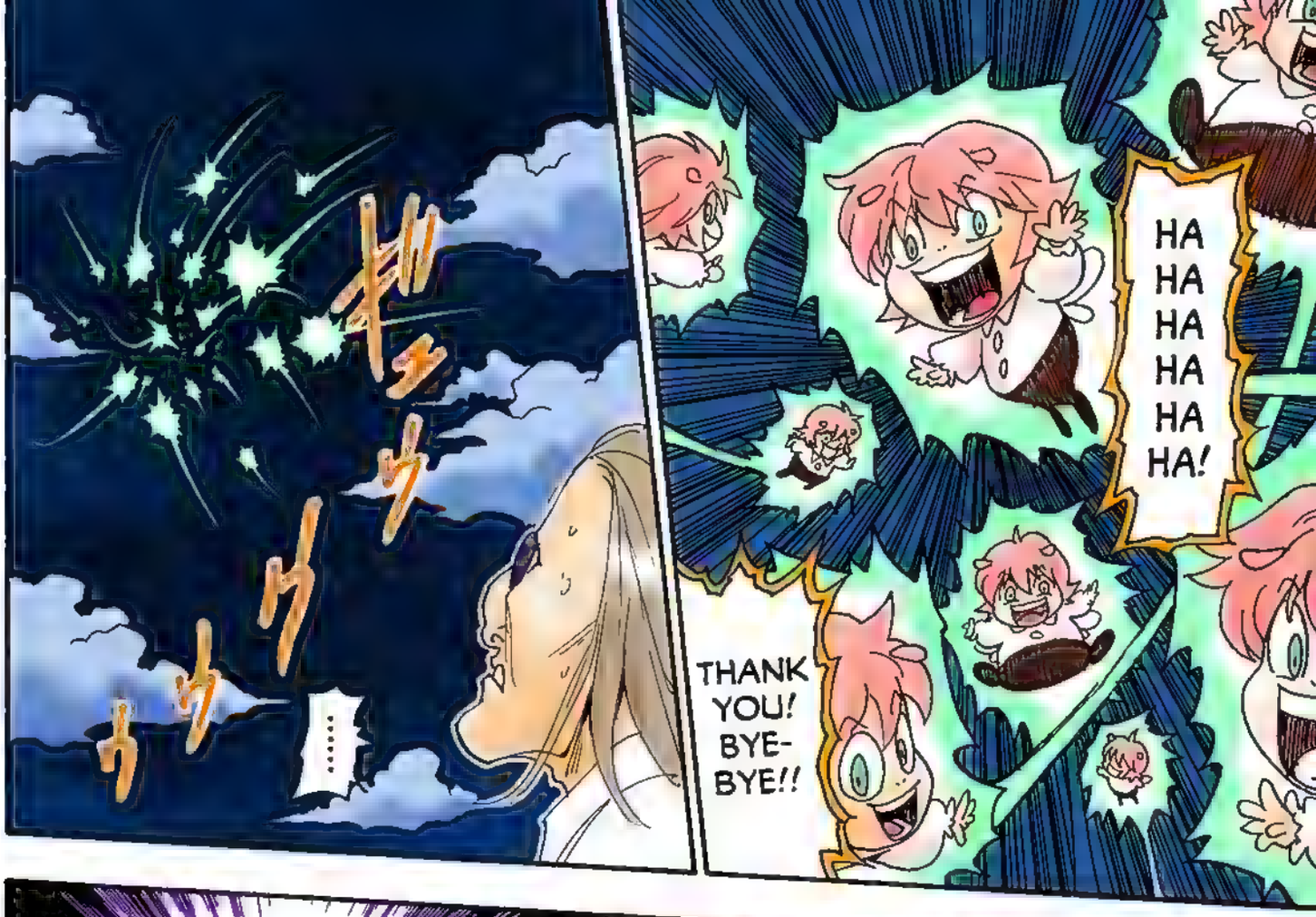
HEH

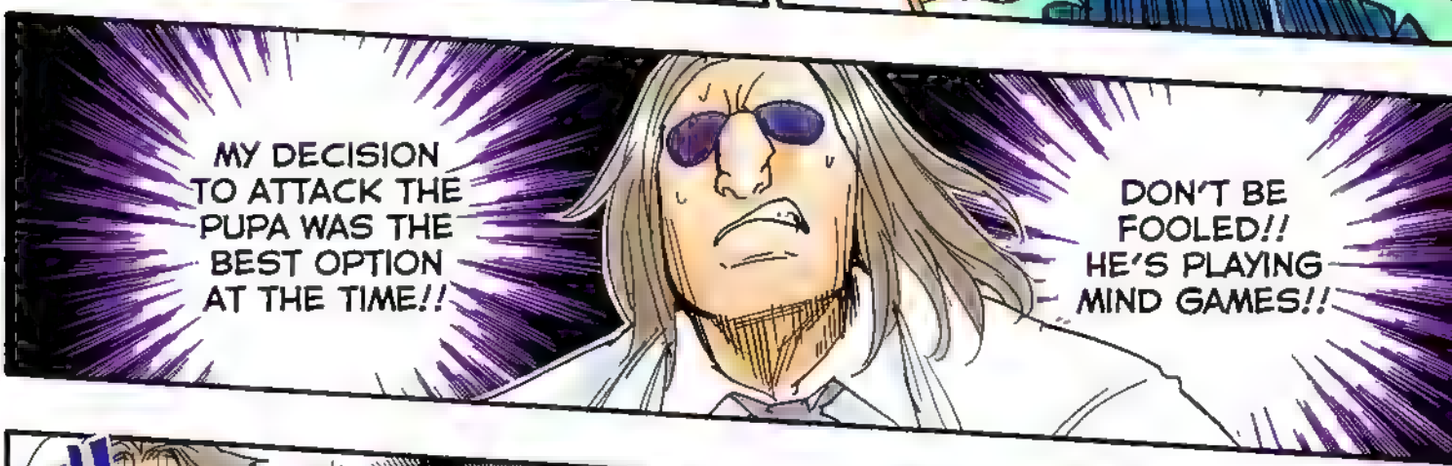
"DEEP PURPLE: SMOKE TROOPERS" !!!

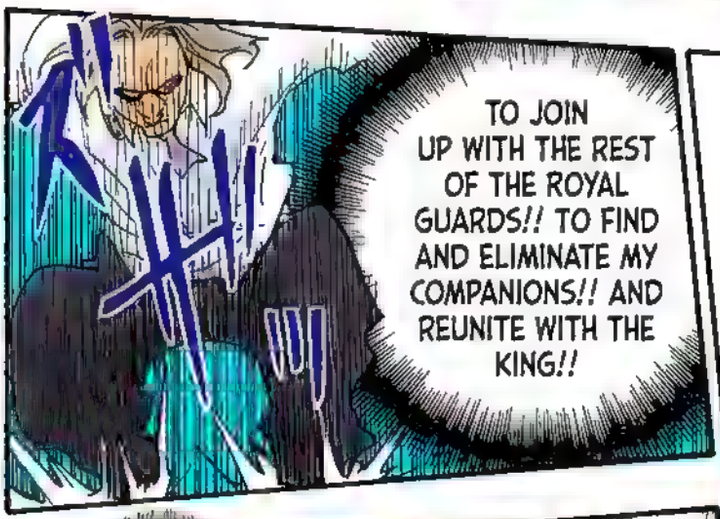
EEK!

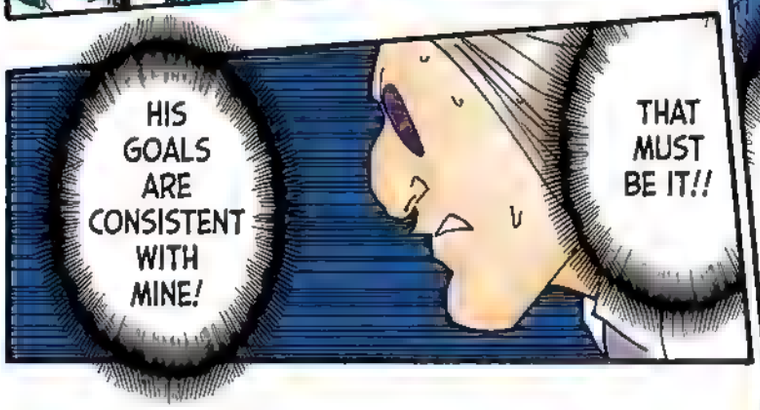
HAA HAA, you got me!

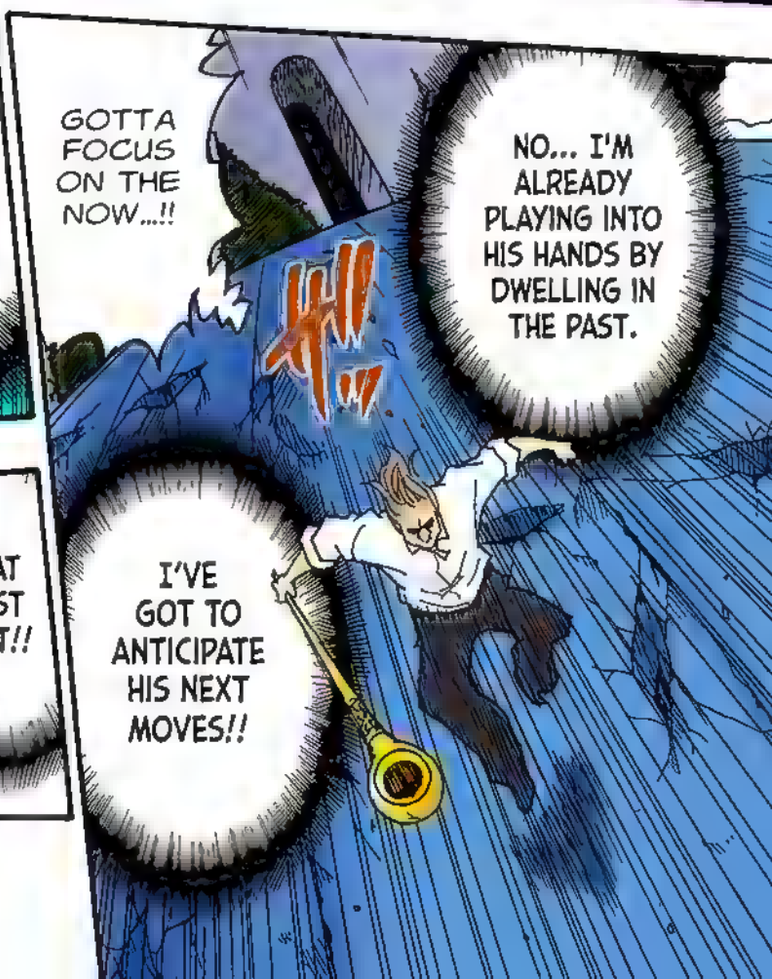



……
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
THANK YOU! BYE-BYE!!


MY DECISION TO ATTACK THE PUPA WAS THE BEST OPTION AT THE TIME!!
DON'T BE FOOLED!! HE'S PLAYING MIND GAMES!!


TO JOIN UP WITH THE REST OF THE ROYAL GUARDS!! TO FIND AND ELIMINATE MY COMPANIONS!! AND REUNITE WITH THE KING!!


HIS GOALS ARE CONSISTENT WITH MINE!
THAT MUST BE IT!!

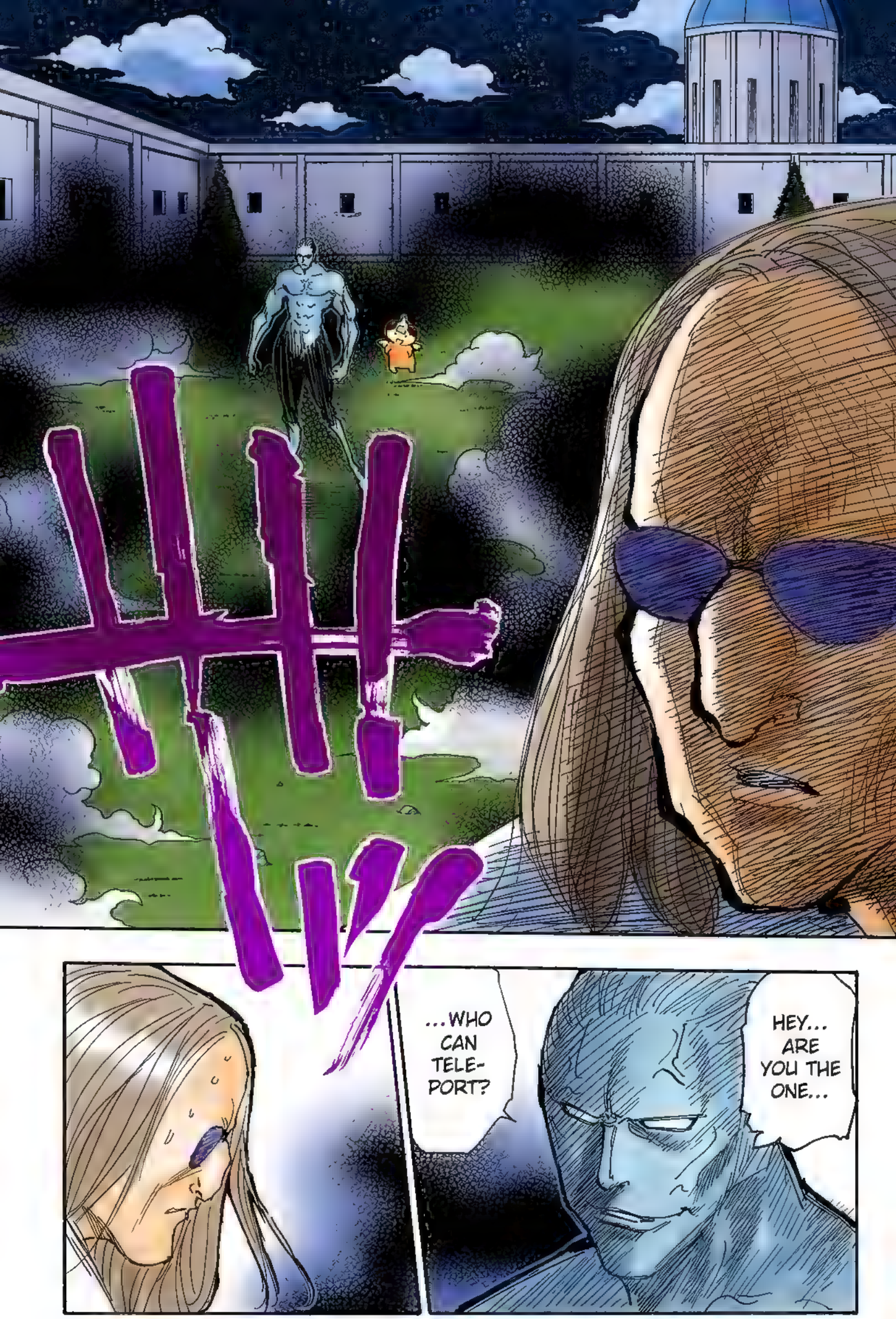

GOTTA FOCUS ON THE NOW...!!
NO... I'M ALREADY PLAYING INTO HIS HANDS BY DWELLING IN THE PAST.
I'VE GOT TO ANTICIPATE HIS NEXT MOVES!!

NO PRO-BLEM ...!!!

UHG...

HA HA HA HA HA
I'LL TAKE THIS !!

I'LL FIND SOMEWHERE SAFE TO THROW THIS AWAY!!!
HAA HAA HAA HAA HAA!
HE'S FAST !!
UNH!
I CAN'T USE ANY OTHER MOVES...
HE GOT ME ...!!
I'LL HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO GET BY USING "DEEP PURPLE" ALONE...!!
IF I DEACTIVATE MY "DEEP PURPLE", I'LL BE DEFENSE-LESS!


...WHO CAN TELE-PORT?
HEY... ARE YOU THE ONE...

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO WITH SHOOT...
HUH ?
THAT'S THE MAXIMUM NUMBER I COULD PRODUCE IN MY CURRENT STATE!! I'LL USE THEM...
89 DEEP PURPLE PUPPETS!!

...AS BEST AS I CAN!!!

TO SUPPORT KNUCKLE...

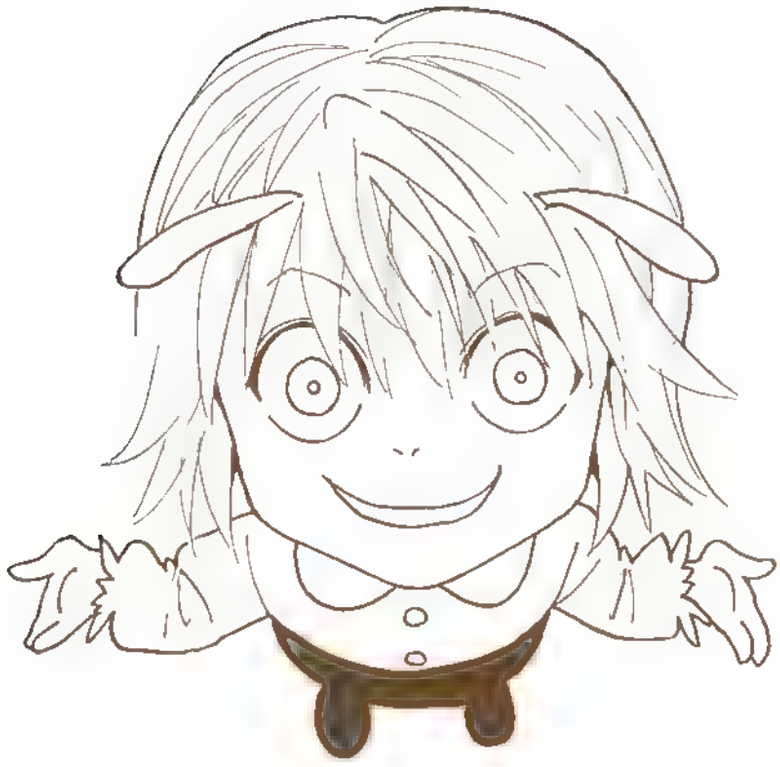
!!

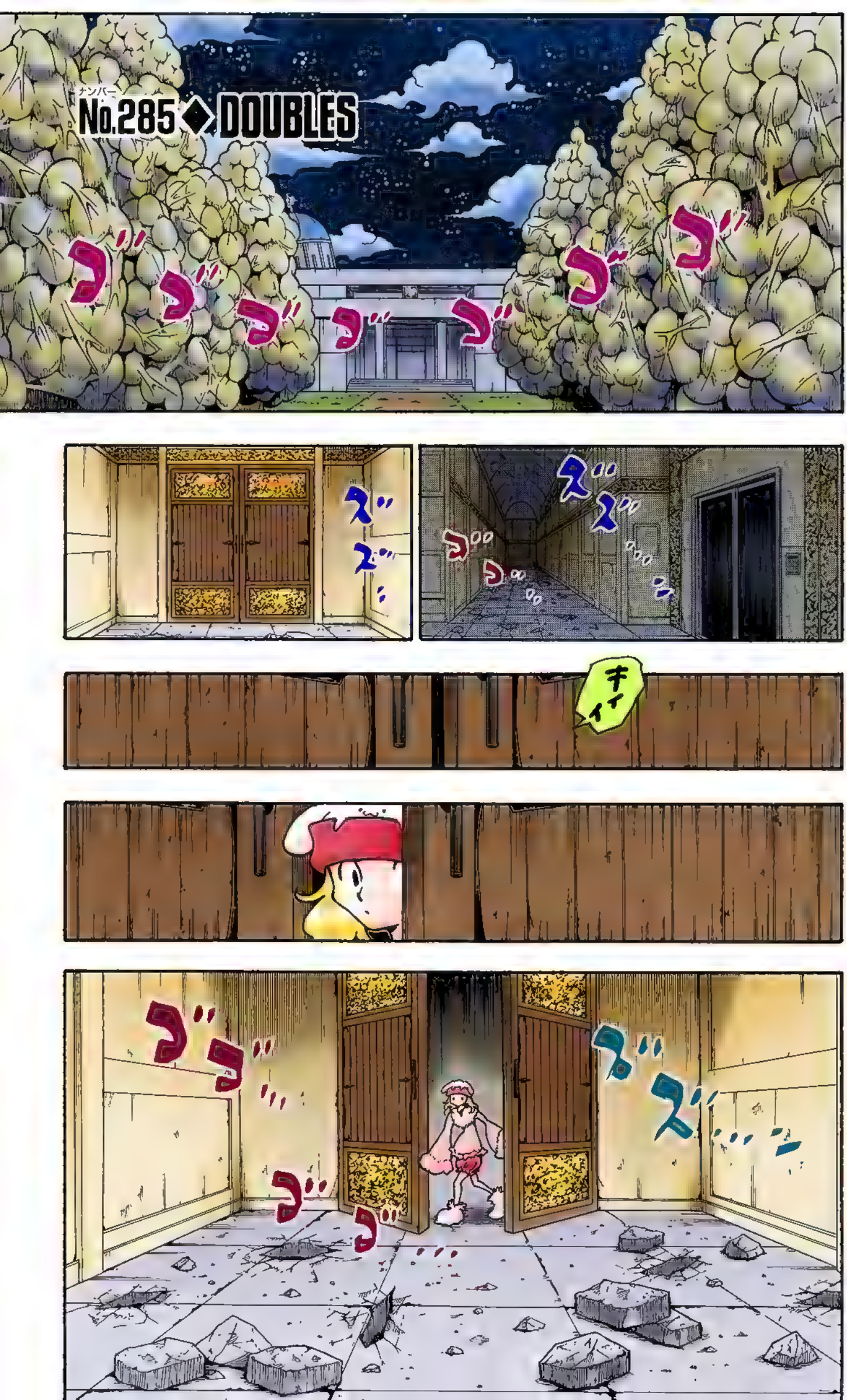
I'LL LET YOU HIT ME ONCE.

I SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

...I'LL TAKE YOUR LIFE!!

BUT IN RETURN...

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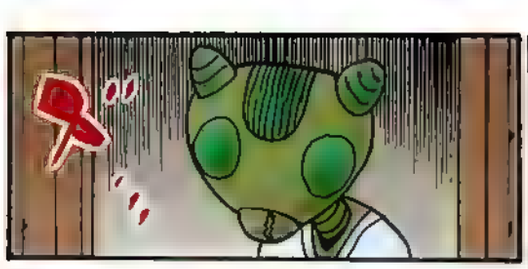
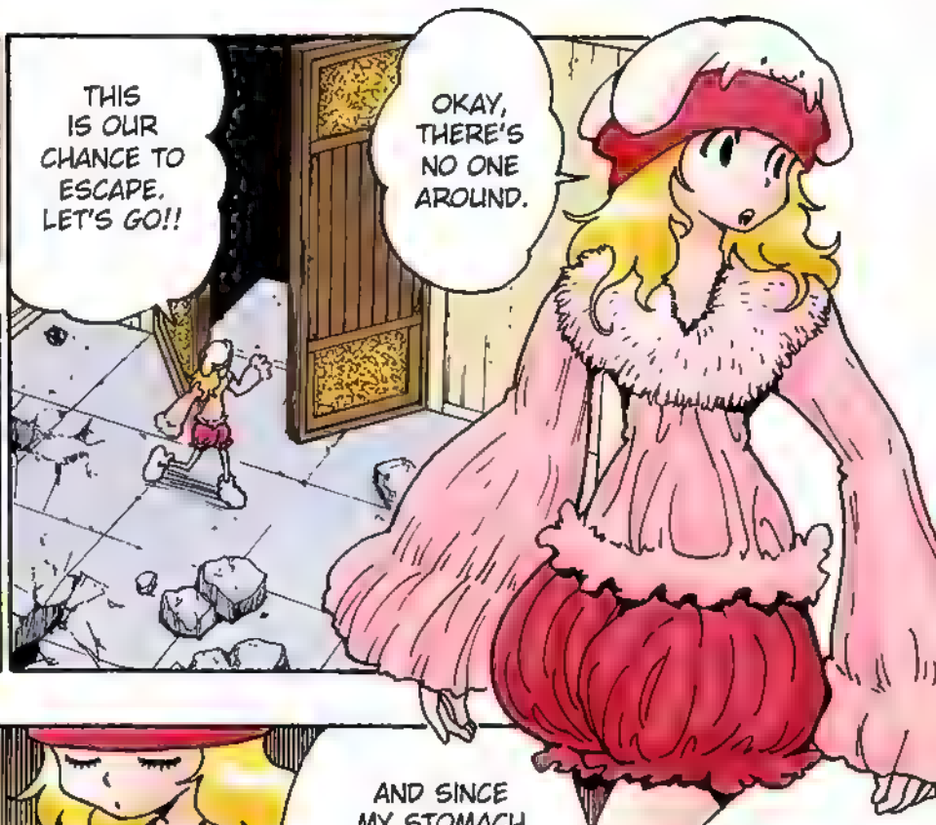
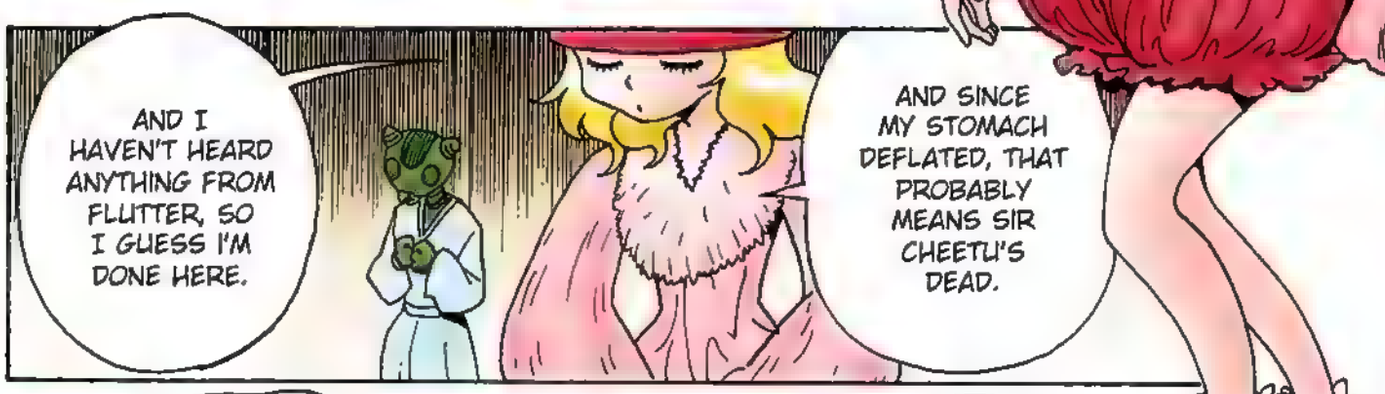
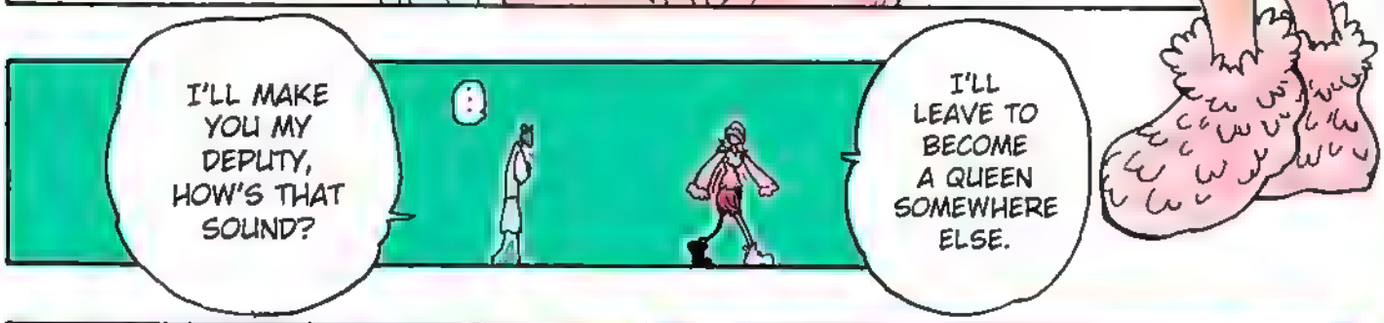
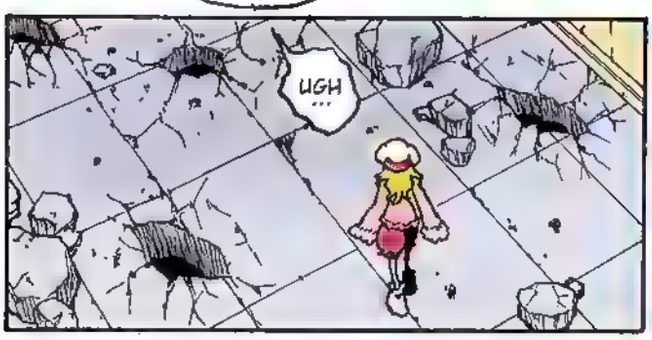



THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO ESCAPE. LET'S GO!!
OKAY, THERE'S NO ONE AROUND.

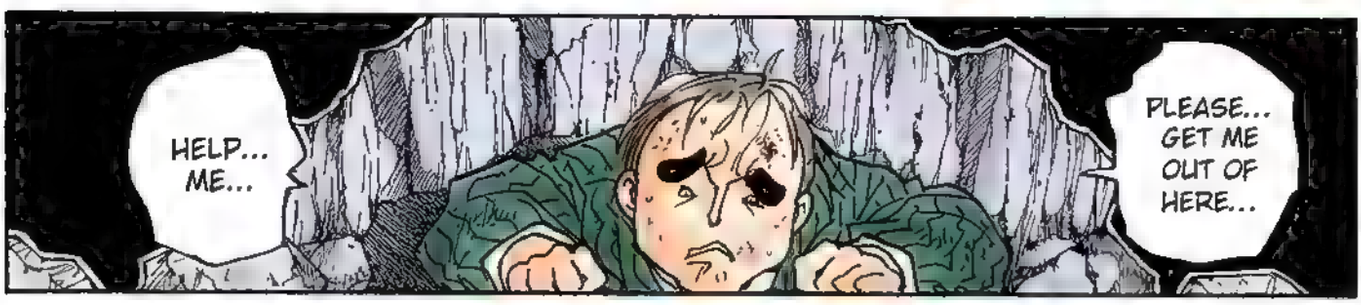
DAMN IT, THEY SAID WE'D BE SAFE HERE IN THE PALACE...
I BET HE'S DEAD.
I CAN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH SIR LEOL...


AND I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM FLUTTER, SO I GUESS I'M DONE HERE.
AND SINCE MY STOMACH DEFLATED, THAT PROBABLY MEANS SIR CHEETLI'S DEAD.

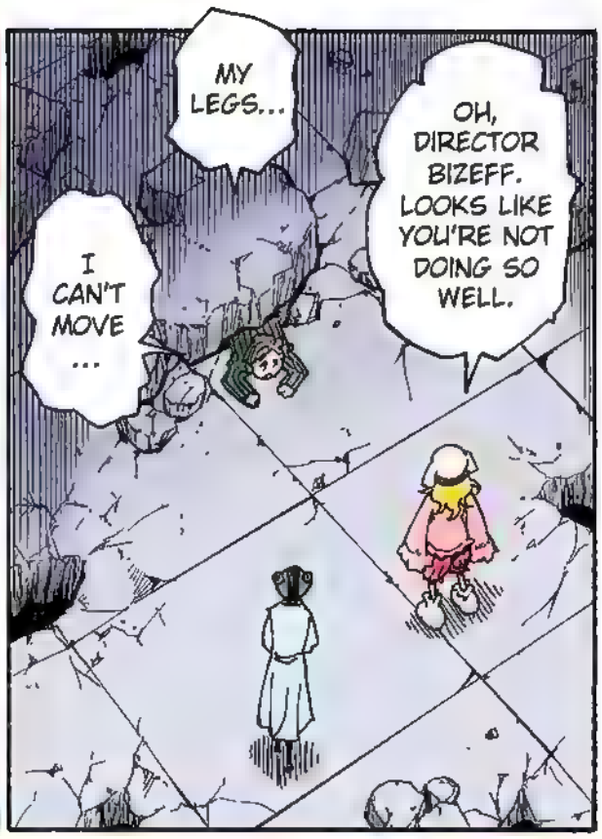

I'LL MAKE YOU MY DEPUTY, HOW'S THAT SOUND?
I'LL LEAVE TO BECOME A QUEEN SOMEWHERE ELSE.

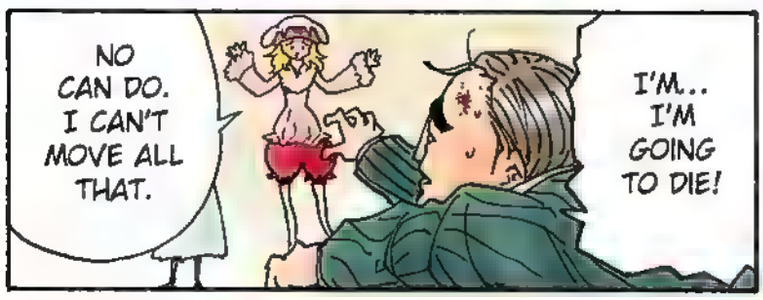

UGH ...

HELP ...
UHN ...

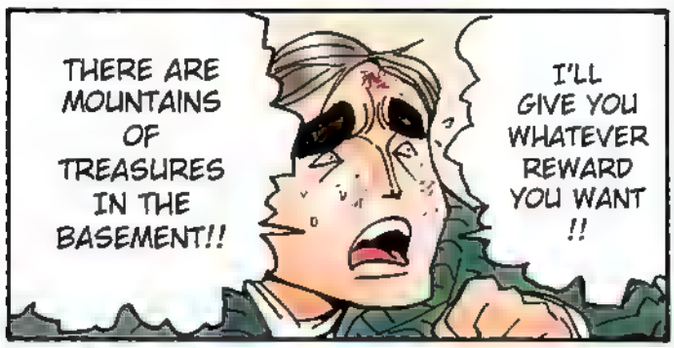

HELP... ME...
PLEASE... GET ME OUT OF HERE...

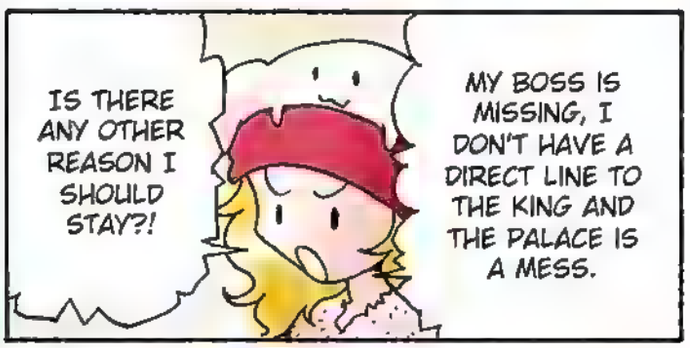
WAIT PLEASE ...!!
WHA-
THIS LOOKS DANGEROUS.
WHA-TEVER, LET'S GO.

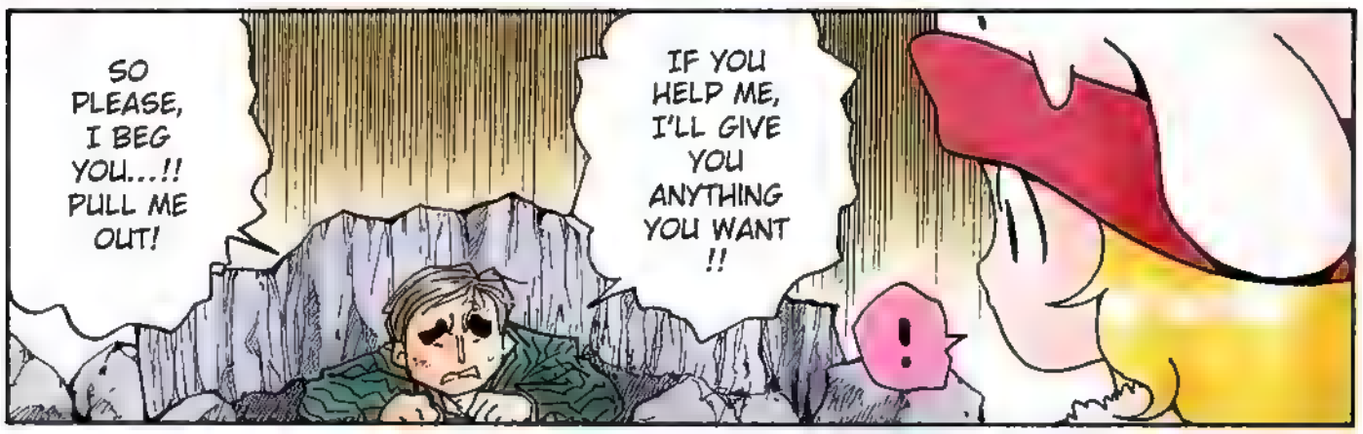

MY LEGS...
OH, DIRECTOR BIZEFF. LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT DOING SO WELL.
I CAN'T MOVE ...

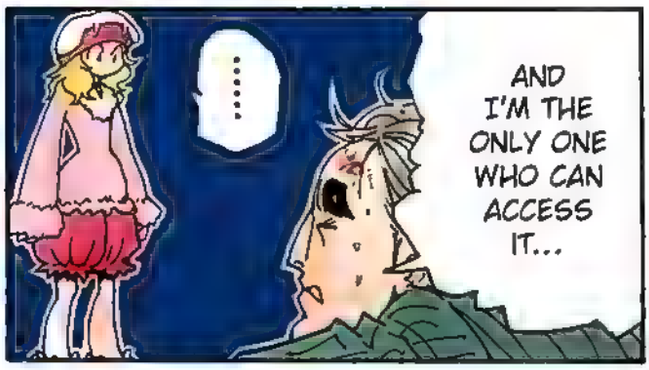

NO CAN DO. I CAN'T MOVE ALL THAT.
I'M... I'M GOING TO DIE!

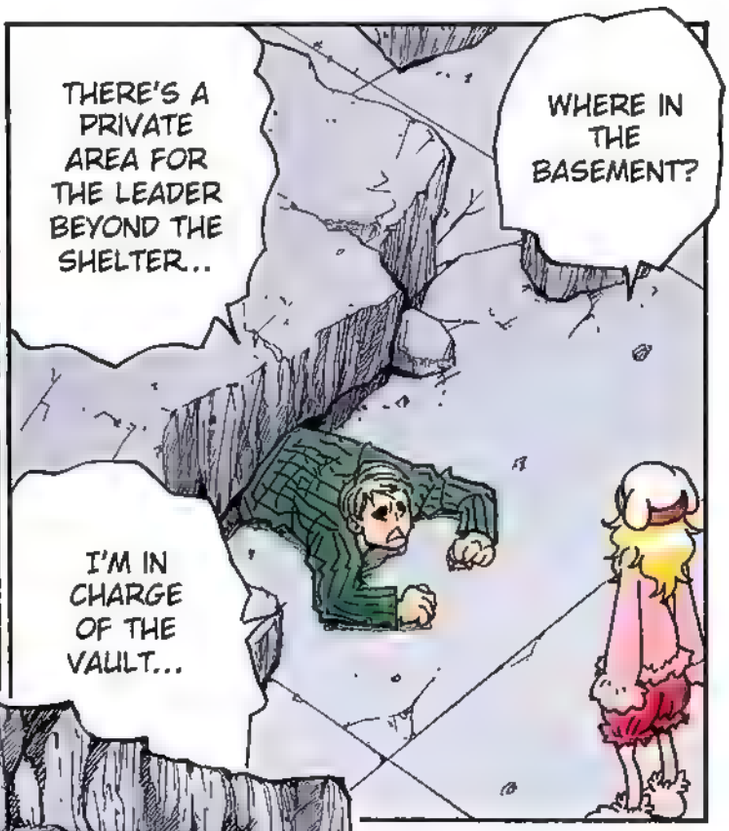
I'M TRYING TO GET OUT OF HERE ASAP!!
SERIOUSLY ...
THEN, GO AND CALL FOR HELP.

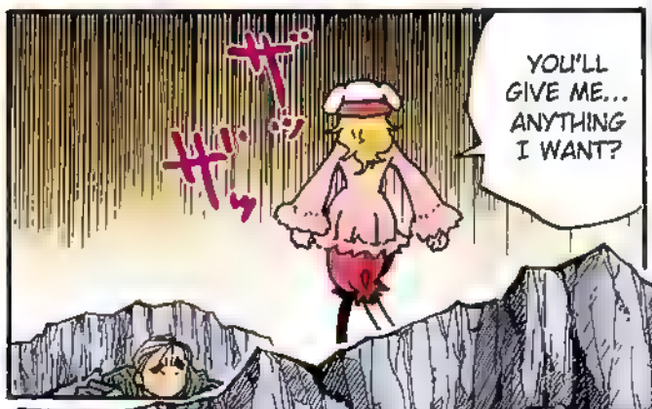

THERE ARE MOUNTAINS OF TREASURES IN THE BASEMENT!!
I'LL GIVE YOU WHATEVER REWARD YOU WANT !!

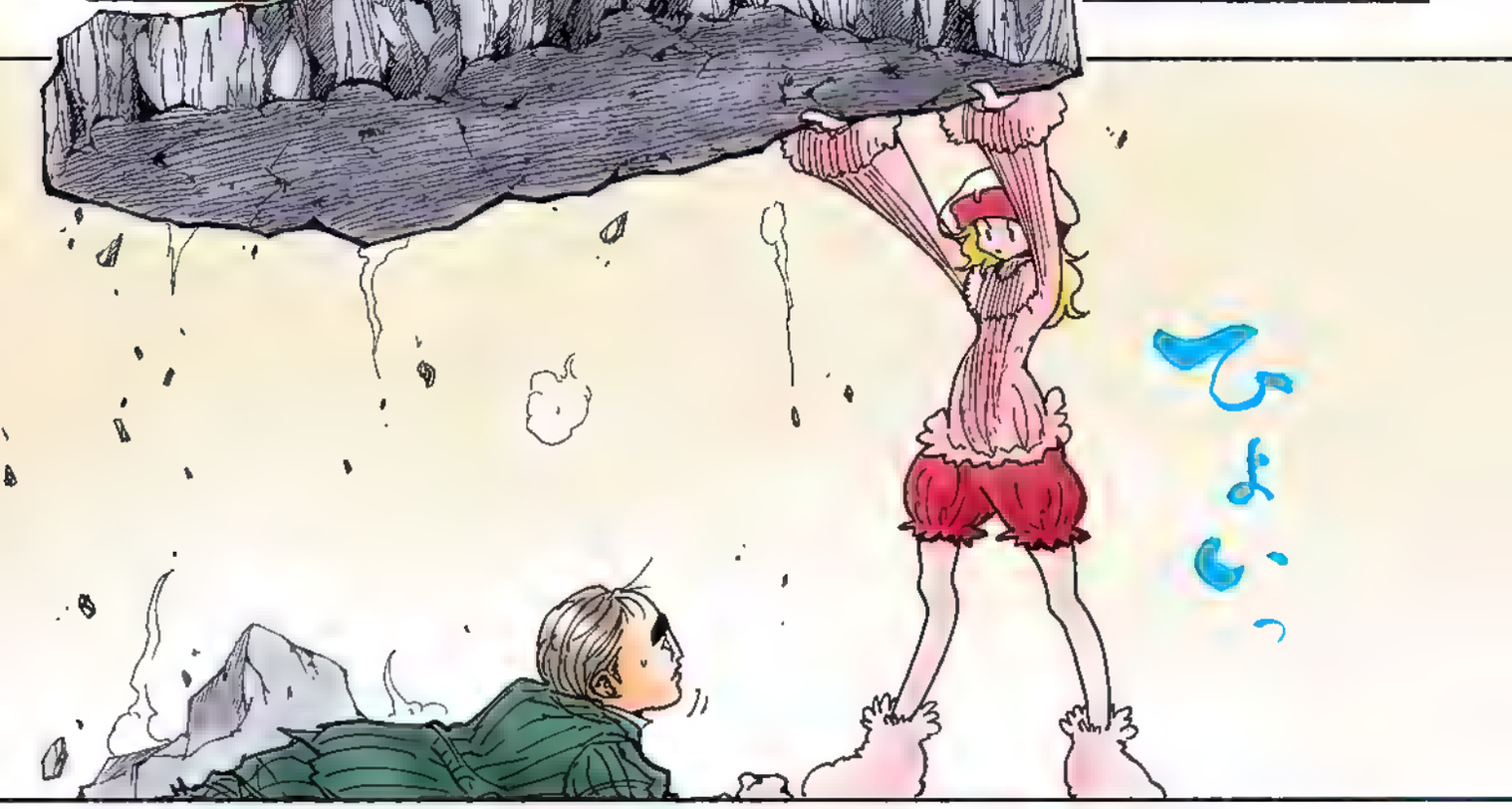

IS THERE ANY OTHER REASON I SHOULD STAY?!
MY BOSS IS MISSING, I DON'T HAVE A DIRECT LINE TO THE KING AND THE PALACE IS A MESS.


SO PLEASE, I BEG YOU...!! PULL ME OUT!
IF YOU HELP ME, I'LL GIVE YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT !!
!


……
AND I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN ACCESS IT...


THERE'S A PRIVATE AREA FOR THE LEADER BEYOND THE SHELTER...
WHERE IN THE BASEMENT?
I'M IN CHARGE OF THE VAULT...


YOU'LL GIVE ME... ANYTHING I WANT?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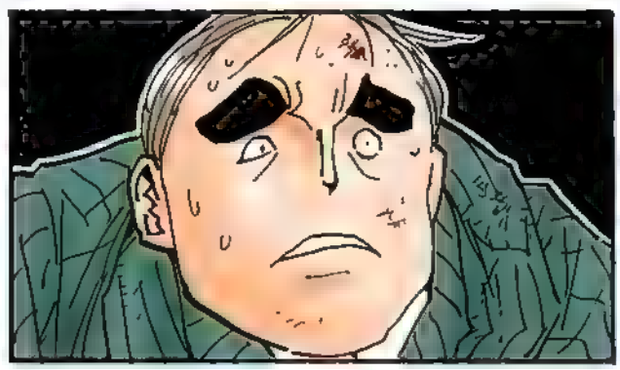

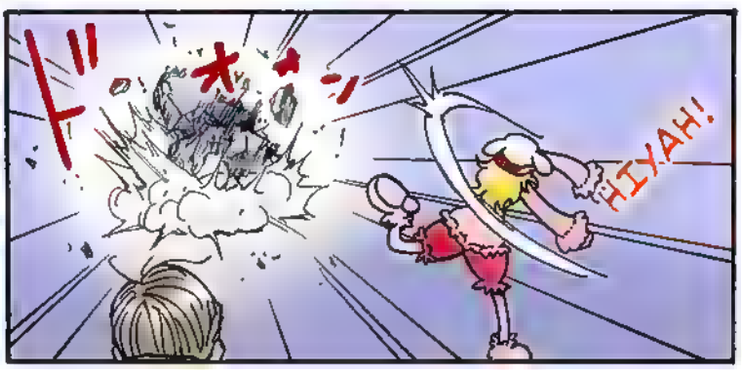
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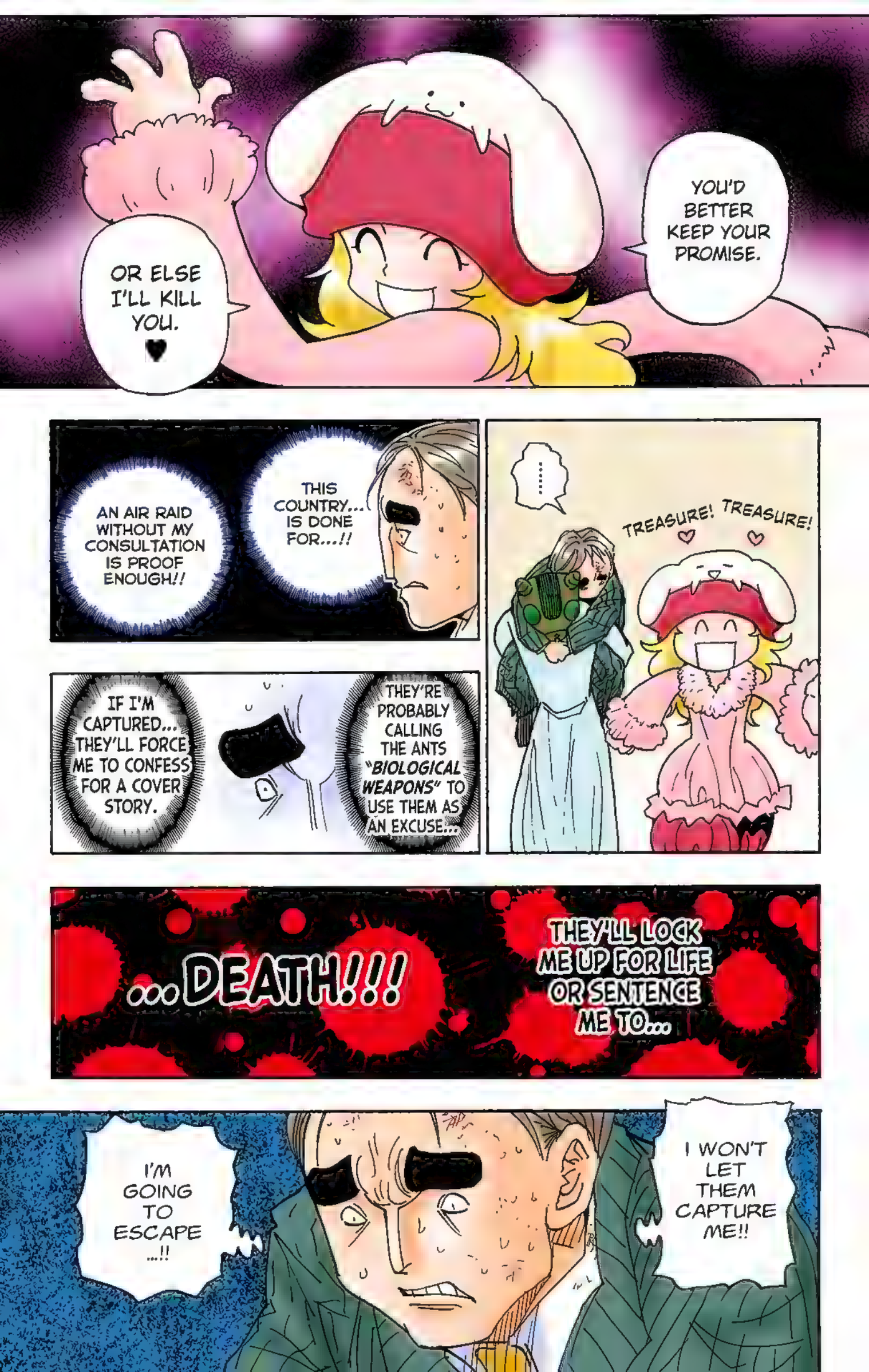
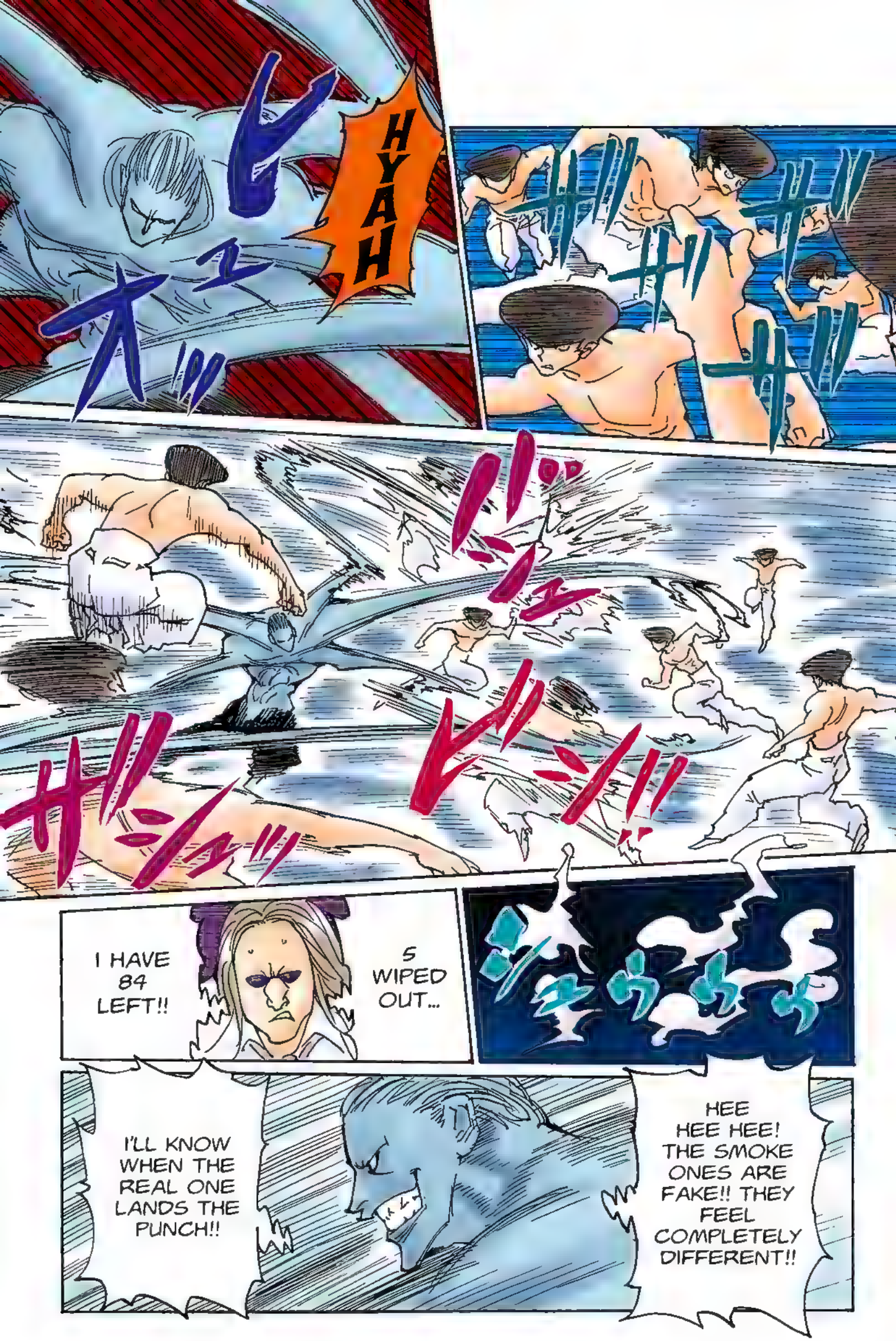
HIYAH!

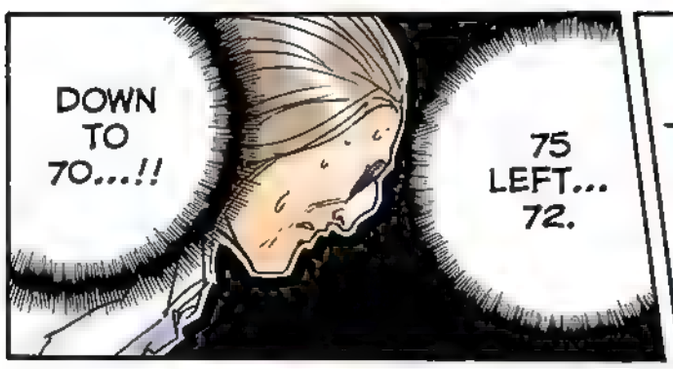

YOU'D BETTER KEEP YOUR PROMISE.
OR ELSE I'LL KILL YOU.
AN AIR RAID WITHOUT MY CONSULTATION IS PROOF ENOUGH!!
THIS COUNTRY... IS DONE FOR...!!
IF I'M CAPTURED... THEY'LL FORCE ME TO CONFESS FOR A COVER STORY.
THEY'RE PROBABLY CALLING THE ANTS "BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS" TO USE THEM AS AN EXCUSE...
TREASURE! TREASURE!
...DEATH!!!
THEY'LL LOCK ME UP FOR LIFE OR SENTENCE ME TO...
I'M GOING TO ESCAPE ...!!
I WON'T LET THEM CAPTURE ME!!

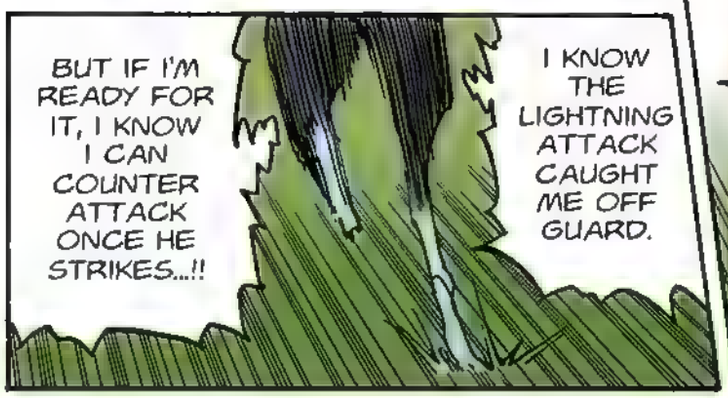
THIS TIME, I'LL LAND A COUNTER PUNCH ON HIM...
...AND GET HIM FOR SURE!!
THE REAL ONE'S HIDDEN AMONG THE FAKES, TRYING TO ATTACK ME, RIGHT?!

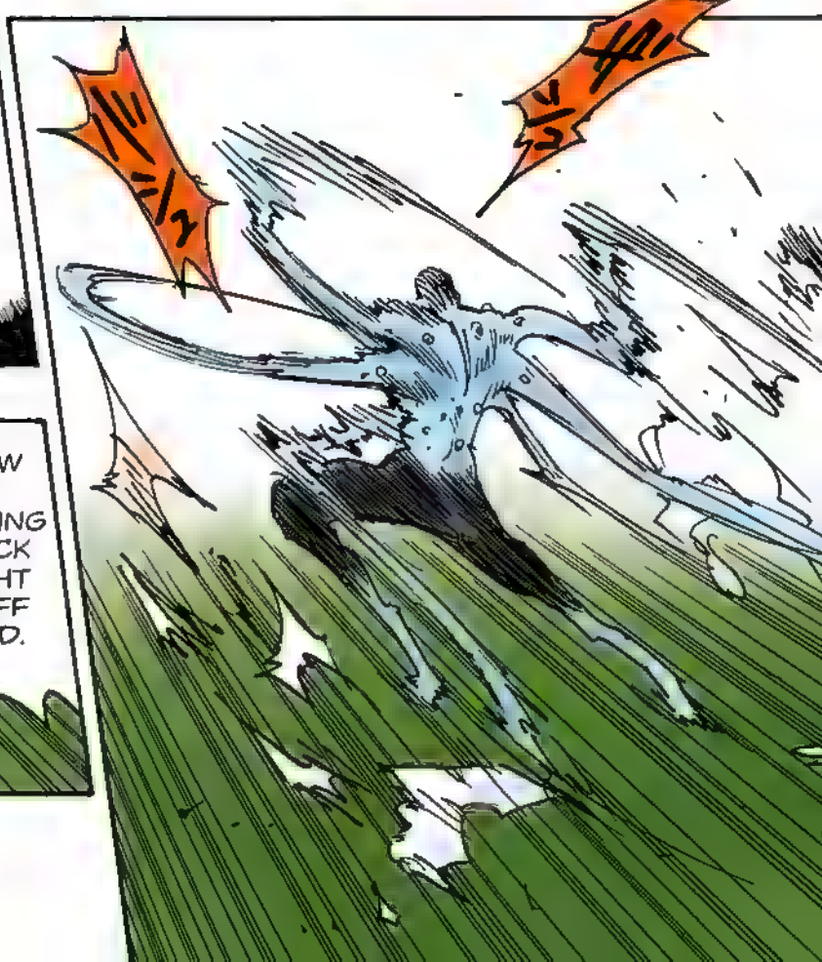

HYAH
I HAVE 84 LEFT!!
S WIPED OUT...
I'LL KNOW WHEN THE REAL ONE LANDS THE PUNCH!!
HEE HEE HEE! THE SMOKE ONES ARE FAKE!! THEY FEEL COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!!

...WILL BE HIS LAST!!

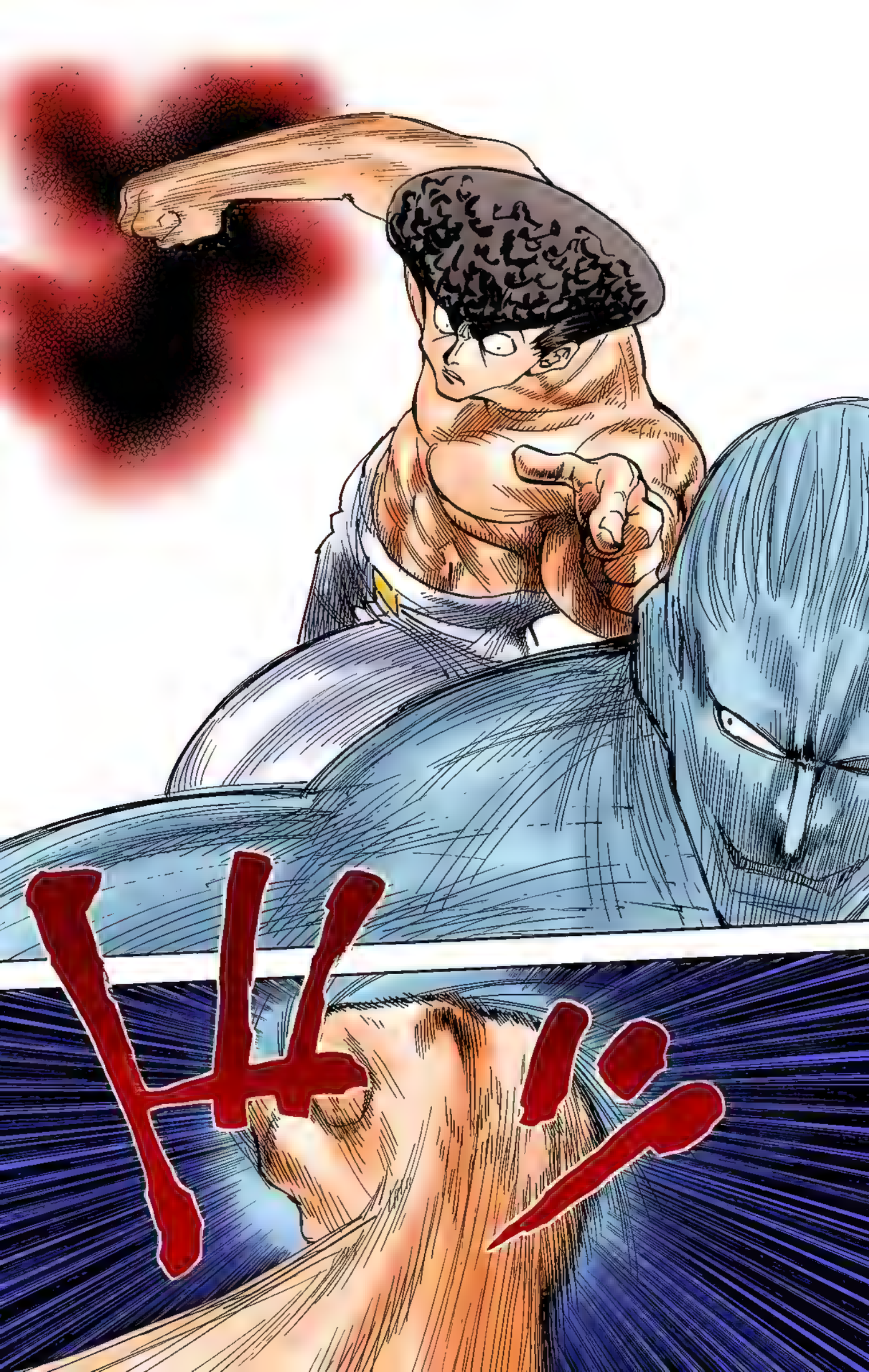
THAT MOMENT...



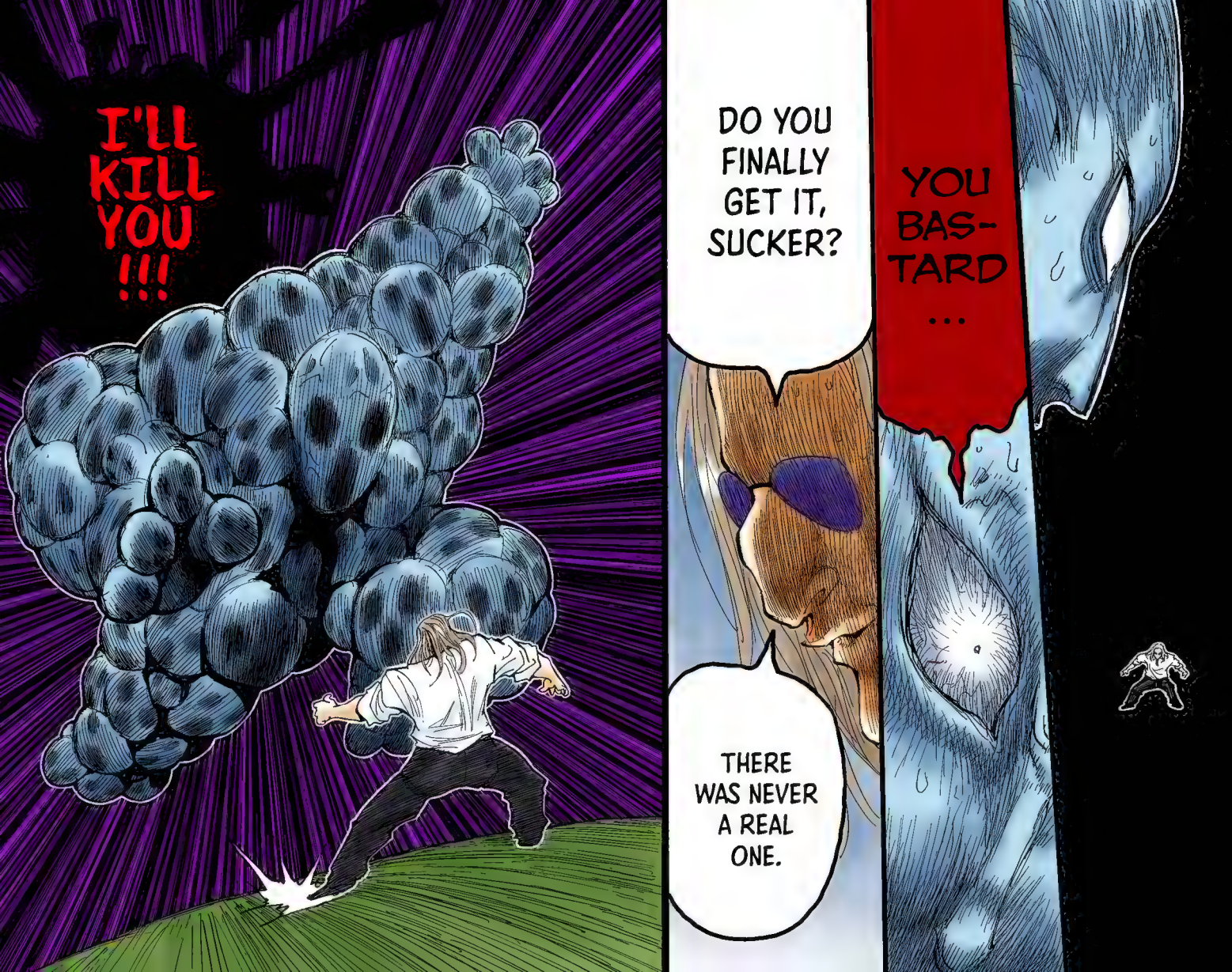




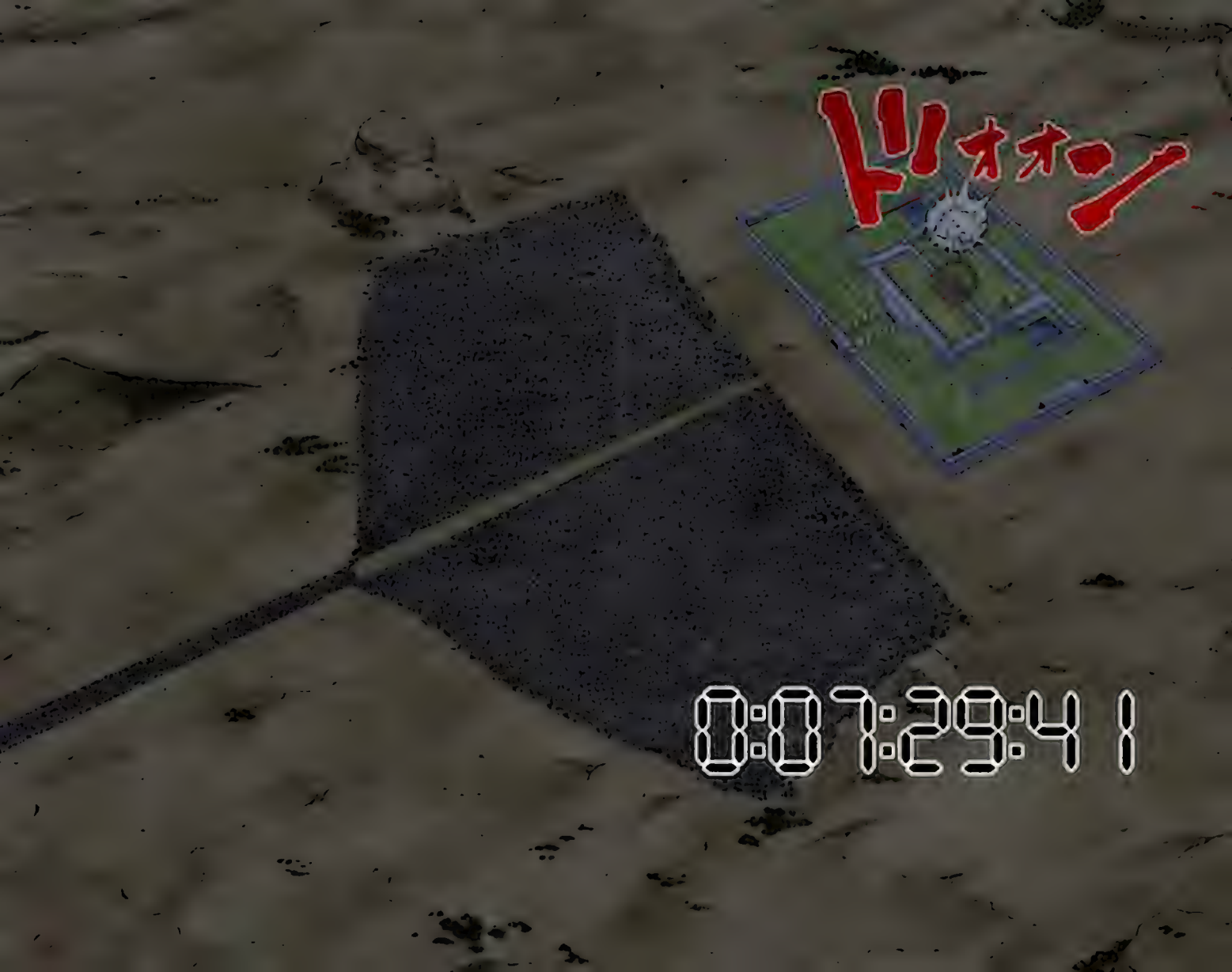
YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF CLONES.
HEE HEE HEE. WHAT'S WRONG ?!
IT WILL MAKE IT EASIER FOR HIM TO HIT ME...
SHOULD I GIVE HIM AN OPENING ...? MAYBE NOT.
...THAT YOU CAN'T GET INTO STRIKING RANGE ?!!
ARE MY ATTACKS THAT FAST...
ACT NATURAL...
CAREFUL ...
COME ON!!!
HERE YOU GO!!


HH!

THIS ONE'S A SMOKE TOO...?!


I'LL KILL YOU !!!
DO YOU FINALLY GET IT, SUCKER?
YOU BAS-TARD ...
THERE WAS NEVER A REAL ONE.

YOU WERE HERE !!!
THE REAL ONE !!!
YEAH, NO KIDDING !!!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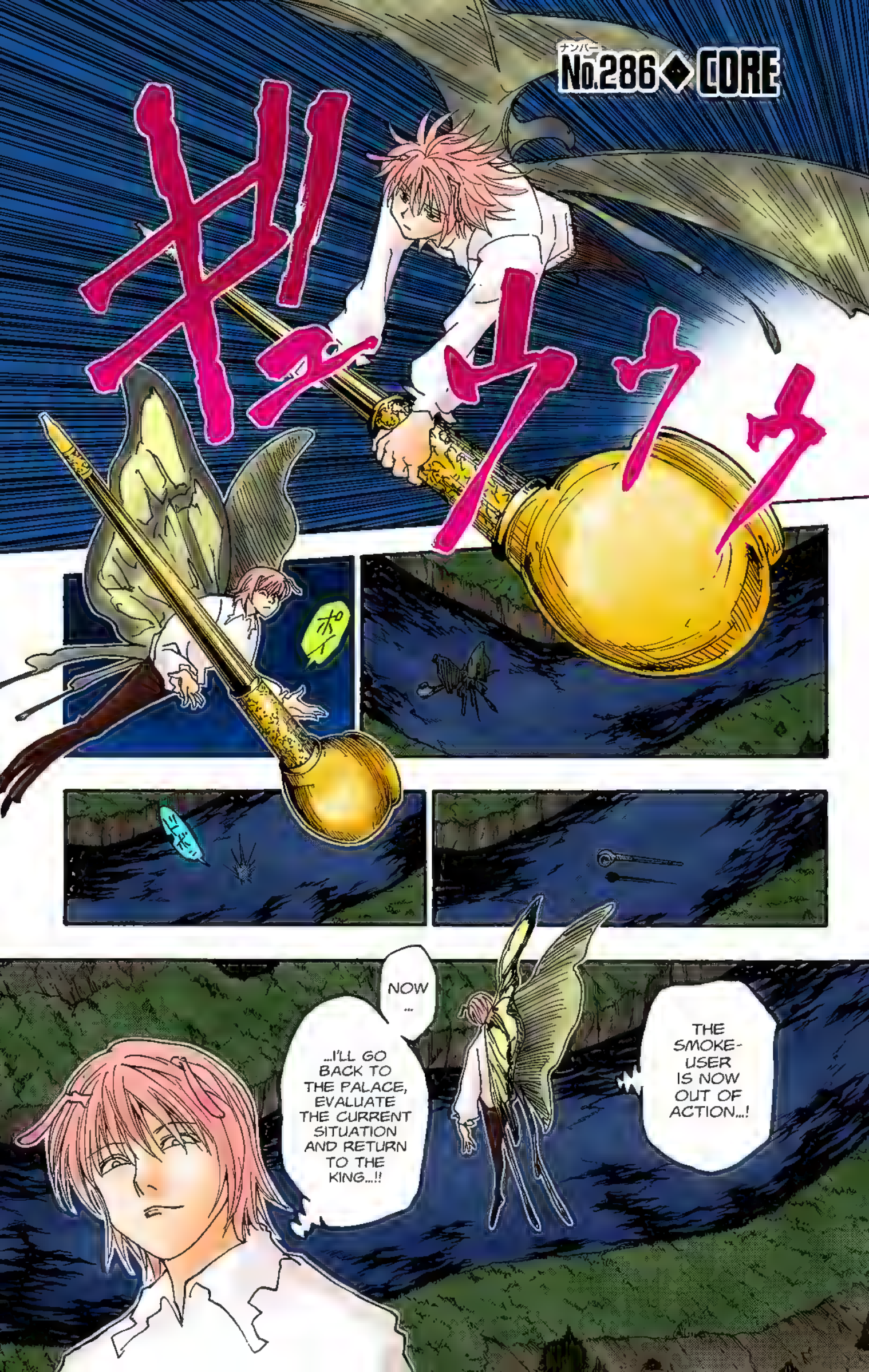
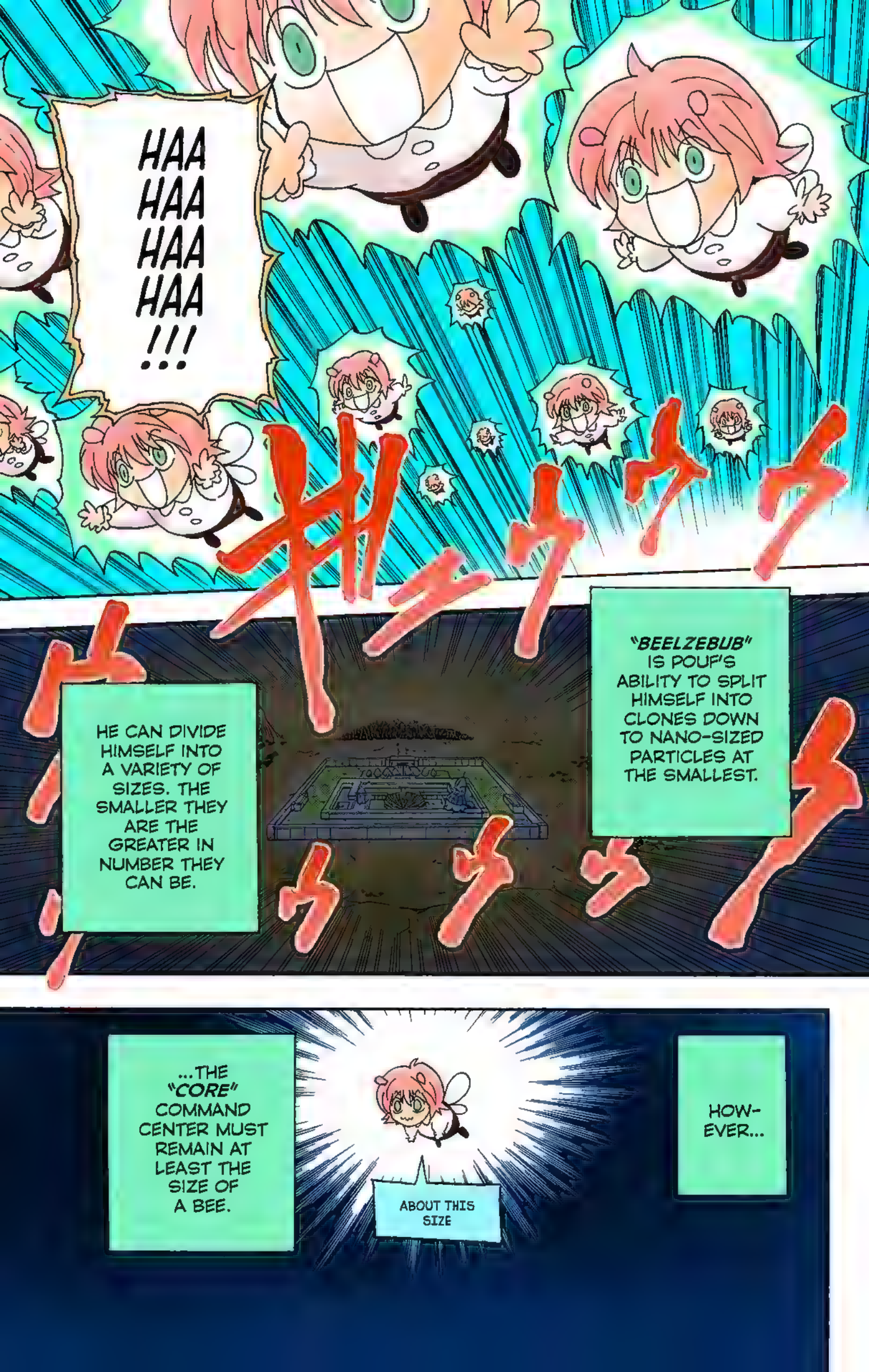
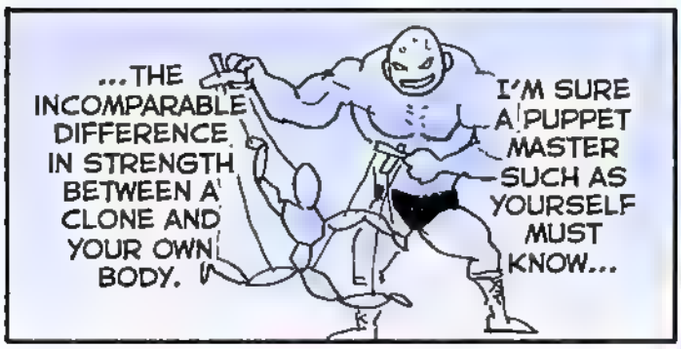
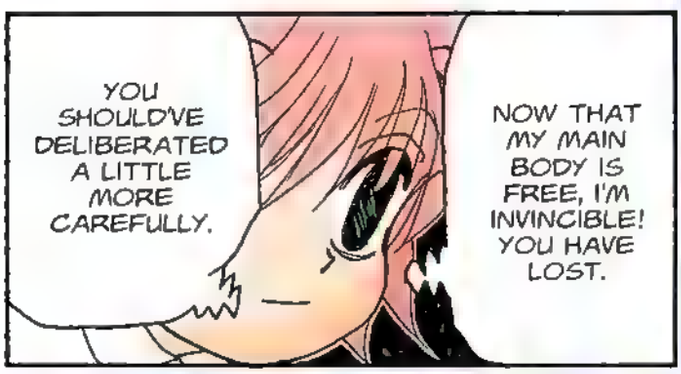

No.286 ◆ CORE
NOW ...
...I'LL GO BACK TO THE PALACE, EVALUATE THE CURRENT SITUATION AND RETURN TO THE KING...!!
THE SMOKE-USER IS NOW OUT OF ACTION...!

"BEELZE-BUB: KING OF FLIES" !!
THE KING WILL ONLY FIND ME A NUISANCE...
THOUGH I'M SURE THAT IF I'M BY HIS SIDE...
ズズ...
ズ...
FIND AND EVALUATE EVERY BEING IN THE PALACE!!
GO FORTH, MY SEGMENTS !!

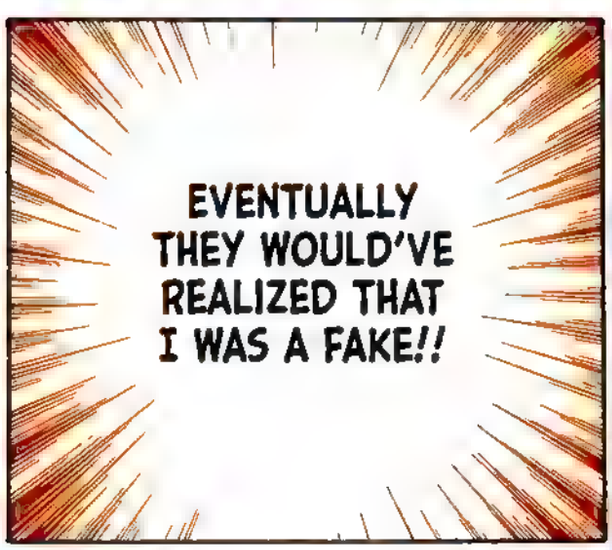

HAA HAA HAA HAA !!!
HE CAN DIVIDE HIMSELF INTO A VARIETY OF SIZES. THE SMALLER THEY ARE THE GREATER IN NUMBER THEY CAN BE.
"BEELZEBUB" IS POUF'S ABILITY TO SPLIT HIMSELF INTO CLONES DOWN TO NANO-SIZED PARTICLES AT THE SMALLEST.
...THE "CORE" COMMAND CENTER MUST REMAIN AT LEAST THE SIZE OF A BEE.
ABOUT THIS SIZE
HOW-EVER...


...THE INCOMPARABLE DIFFERENCE IN STRENGTH BETWEEN A CLONE AND YOUR OWN BODY.
I'M SURE A PUPPET MASTER SUCH AS YOURSELF MUST KNOW...

...MY "MAIN BODY" COULD NOT HAVE ESCAPED.
OH, SMOKE MAN... IF YOU HADN'T REMOVED THE BARRIER...
"MY" COMBAT CAPACITY WOULD HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY HALF.


YOU SHOULD'VE DELIBERATED A LITTLE MORE CAREFULLY.
NOW THAT MY MAIN BODY IS FREE, I'M INVINCIBLE! YOU HAVE LOST.

EVEN IF "I" SEEMED TO SPEAK FROM THE OUTSIDE, YOU COULD'VE PONDERED WHETHER IT WAS "A REAL VOICE OR NOT"...!!
WHEN YOU REALIZED THE PUPA WAS EMPTY, YOU COULD'VE ASKED YOURSELF "WHETHER ITS CONTENTS HAD ESCAPED THE SMOKE OR NOT"...!!


EVENTUALLY THEY WOULD'VE REALIZED THAT I WAS A FAKE!!

"I" COULD ATTEMPT TO CONFUSE YOUR ALLIES, BUT MY CLONES ARE MERE "HUSKS." ASSUMING THAT YOUR ALLIES WERE AS STRONG AS YOU, EVEN IF IT TOOK A FEW CASUALTIES, THEY WOULD HAVE NOTICED...
THE PLAN I EXECUTED EARLIER WAS AN ACT OF DESPERATION...!!

...REMAINED WITHIN THE BARRIER, YOU WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD "MY" ABILITY AND SEARCHED FOR ME.

Catch!!

HAD YOU COMPREHENDED THE TRUTH, AND REALIZED THAT MY MAIN BODY...

...BUT YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEFEAT ME.

IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU KEPT ME IMPRISONED AS PER YOUR INITIAL PLAN, YOU MIGHT HAVE LOST SOME COLLEAGUES...

I WOULD HAVE HAD NO WAY TO FIGHT YOU IN MY REDUCED STATE...

IF YOU HAD DONE SO...

And Release!! (to hell☠)

YOUR EMOTIONS WERE PERFECTLY ALIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH THAT.

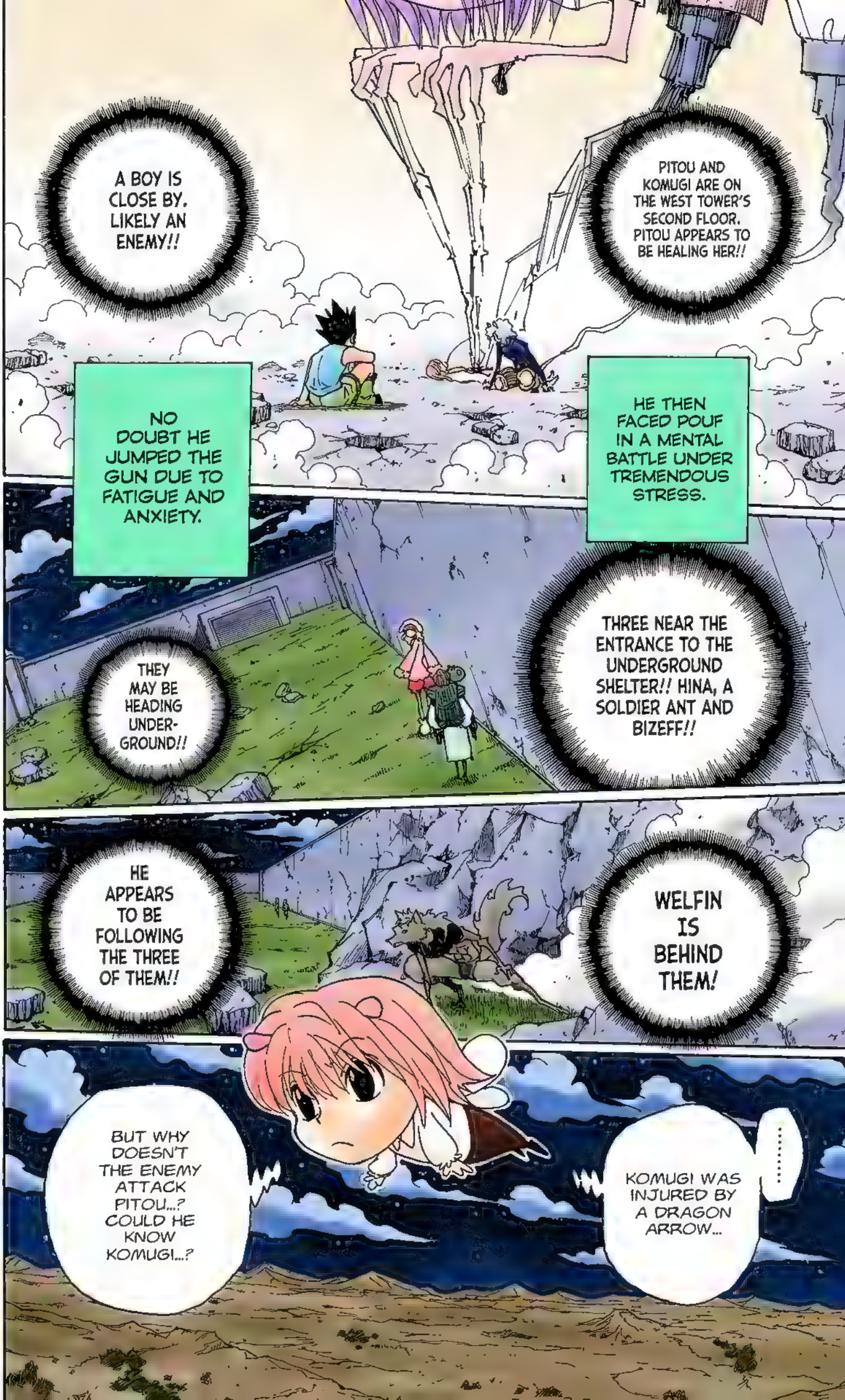
AND I WAS 10% READY RESIGNED TO THIS OUTCOME.

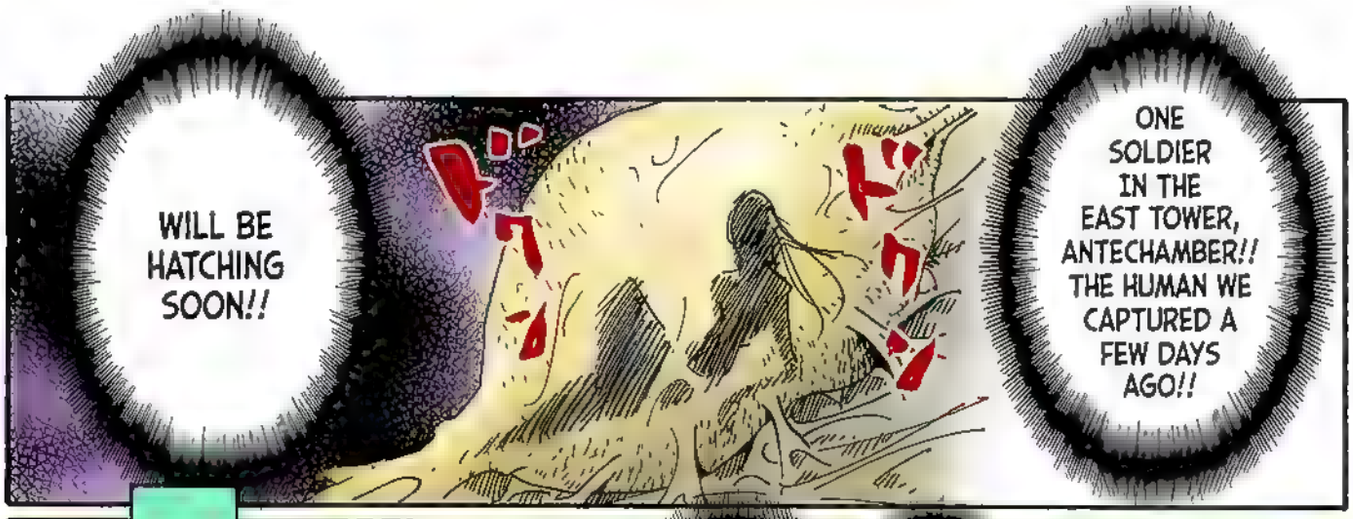
MOREL WAS FAR FROM BEING IN PERFECT FORM, EVEN BEFORE STORMING THE PALACE.

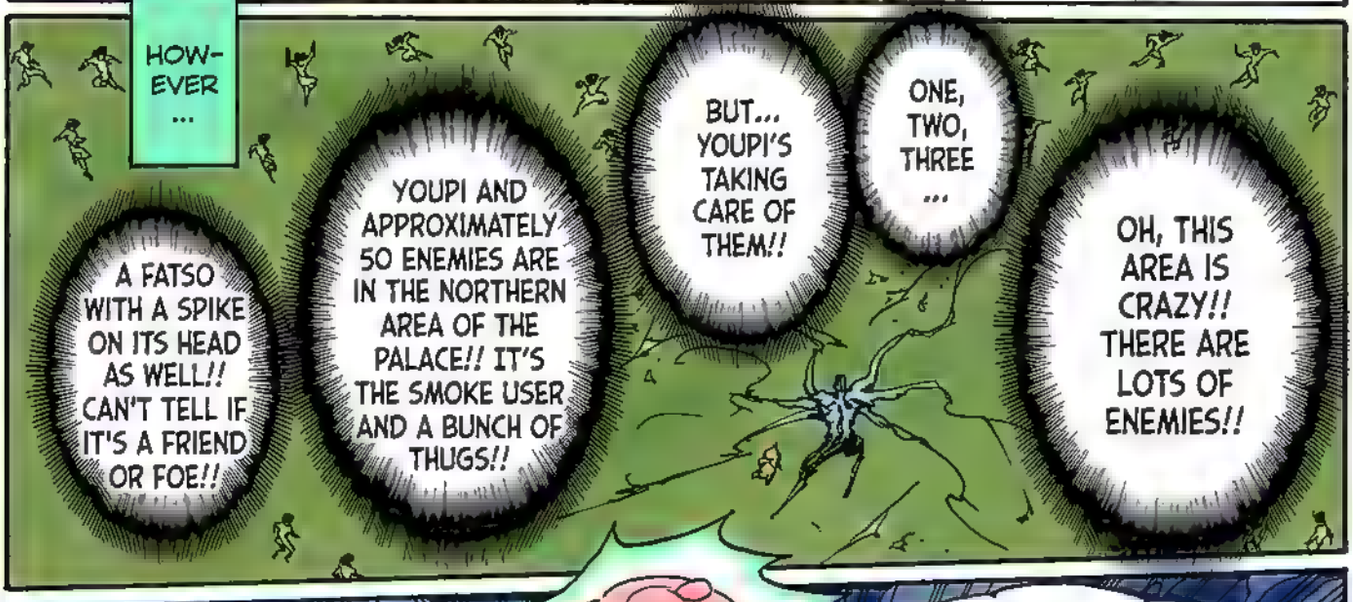
NEXT, I WILL EVALUATE THE SITUATION IN THE PALACE!!

BUT, I AM NOW FREE !!!

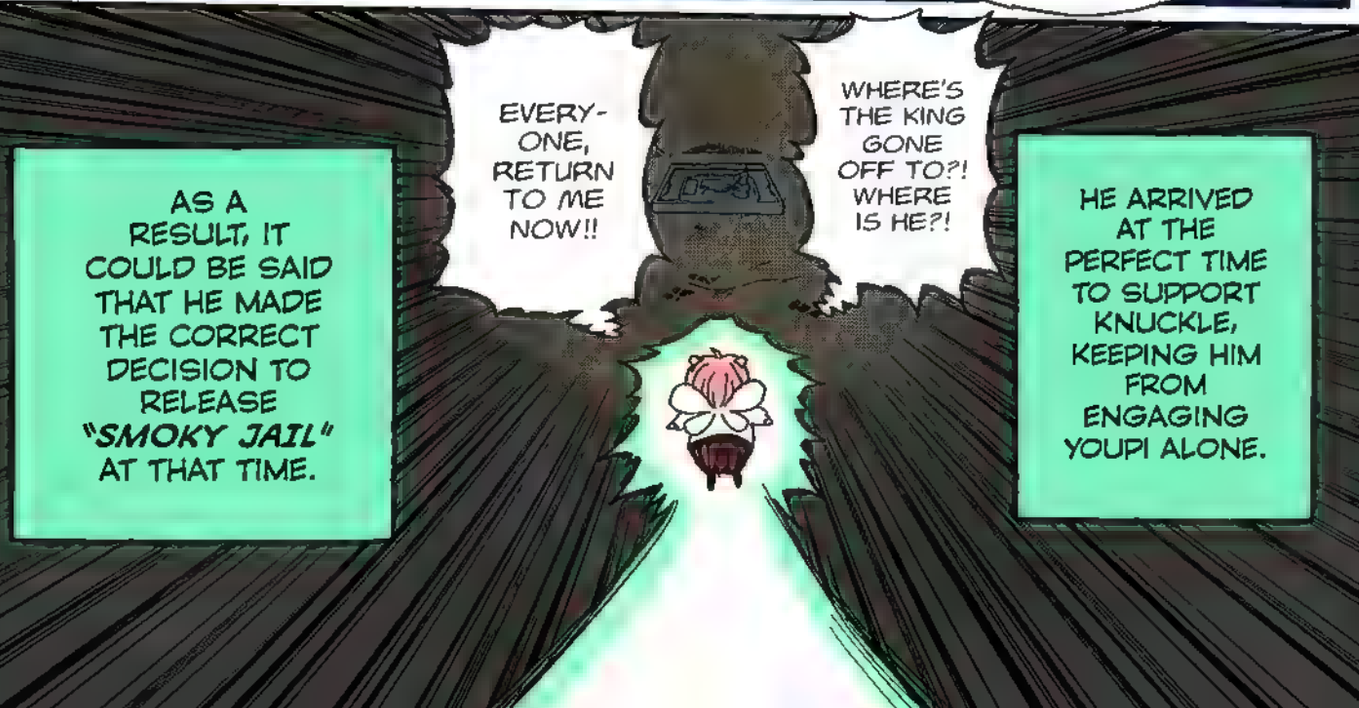
I SUPPOSE THE EXPLOSION MUST HAVE THROWN YOU OFF. SUCH A PITY!!


A BOY IS CLOSE BY. LIKELY AN ENEMY!!
PITOU AND KOMUGI ARE ON THE WEST TOWER'S SECOND FLOOR. PITOU APPEARS TO BE HEALING HER!!
NO DOUBT HE JUMPED THE GUN DUE TO FATIGUE AND ANXIETY.
HE THEN FACED POUF IN A MENTAL BATTLE UNDER TREMENDOUS STRESS.
THEY MAY BE HEADING UNDER-GROUND!!
THREE NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO THE UNDERGROUND SHELTER!! HINA, A SOLDIER ANT AND BIZEFF!!
HE APPEARS TO BE FOLLOWING THE THREE OF THEM!!
WELFIN IS BEHIND THEM!
BUT WHY DOESN'T THE ENEMY ATTACK PITOU...? COULD HE KNOW KOMUGI...?
KOMUGI WAS INJURED BY A DRAGON ARROW...
.....


WILL BE HATCHING SOON!!
ONE SOLDIER IN THE EAST TOWER, ANTECHAMBER!! THE HUMAN WE CAPTURED A FEW DAYS AGO!!


HOW-EVER ...
A FATSO WITH A SPIKE ON ITS HEAD AS WELL!! CAN'T TELL IF IT'S A FRIEND OR FOE!!
YOUPI AND APPROXIMATELY 50 ENEMIES ARE IN THE NORTHERN AREA OF THE PALACE!! IT'S THE SMOKE USER AND A BUNCH OF THUGS!!
BUT... YOUPI'S TAKING CARE OF THEM!!
ONE, TWO, THREE ...
OH, THIS AREA IS CRAZY!! THERE ARE LOTS OF ENEMIES!!

IT SHOULD TAKE YOUPI LESS THAN A MINUTE TO FIND THE REAL ONE!!
IS THE SPIKE-HEAD THING YOUPI'S TRUE ABILITY...? ONLY ONE OF THOSE THUGS IS THE REAL ONE, WHILE THE REST ARE MADE OF SMOKE. THE NUMBER OF PUPPETS ISN'T INCREASING BECAUSE HE NEEDS THE PIPE TO MAKE MORE!!


AS A RESULT, IT COULD BE SAID THAT HE MADE THE CORRECT DECISION TO RELEASE "SMOKY JAIL" AT THAT TIME.
EVERY-ONE, RETURN TO ME NOW!!
WHERE'S THE KING GONE OFF TO?! WHERE IS HE?!
HE ARRIVED AT THE PERFECT TIME TO SUPPORT KNUCKLE, KEEPING HIM FROM ENGAGING YOUPI ALONE.

UPON ENTERING THE PALACE, MOREL HAD WEIGHED THE STRENGTH OF THE ENEMIES AGAINST THAT OF HIS TEAM.

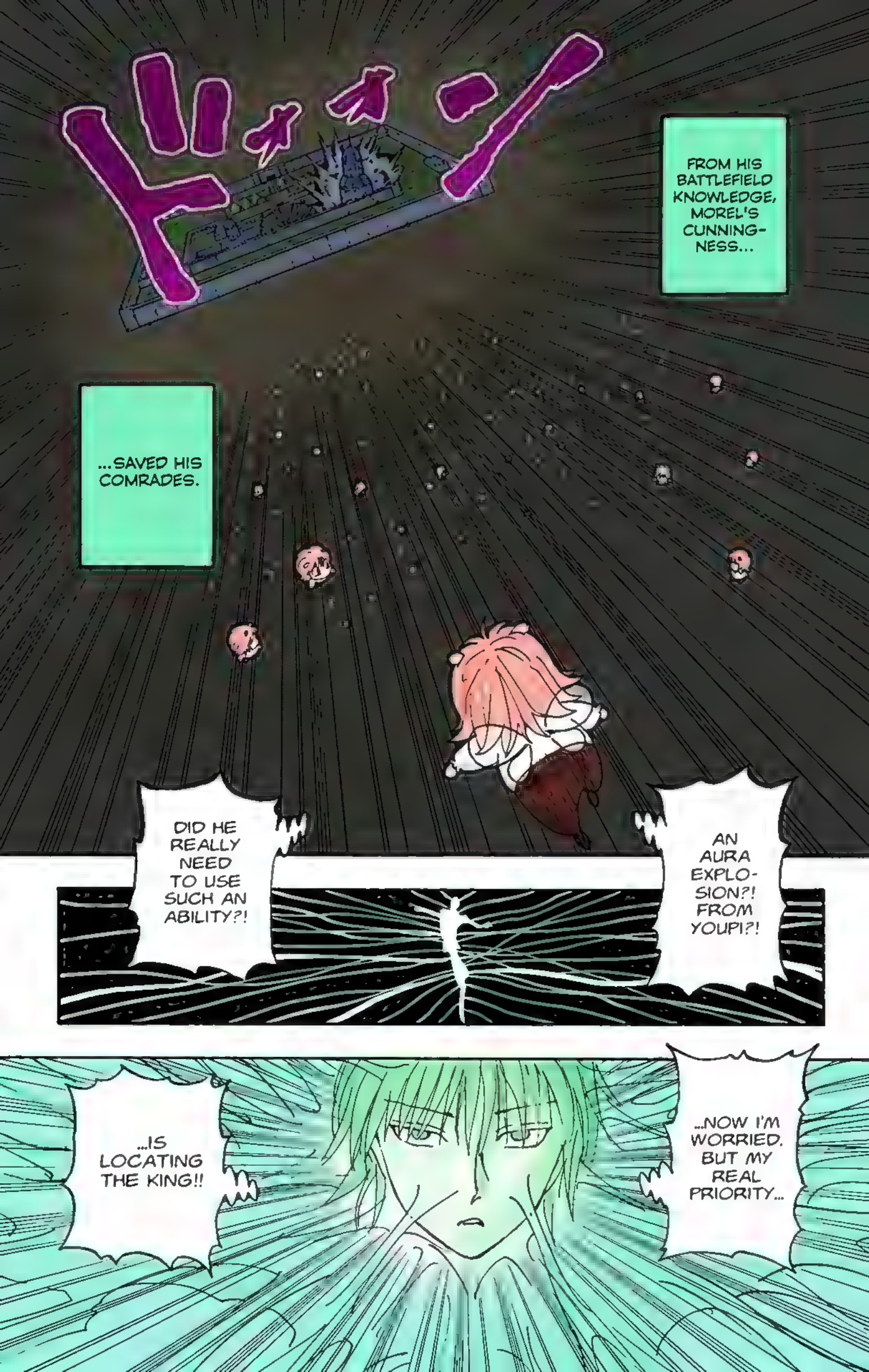
IT WAS MORE THAN SIMPLY A PRODUCT OF COINCIDENCE. IT WOULD BE VALID TO SAY MOREL'S VAST WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE PLAYED A ROLE IN SAVING HIM.

SUBCON-SCIOUSLY, HE KNEW THAT THEY HAD UNDERE-STIMATED THE ENEMY.

WHEN HE REALIZED HOW LONG HIS ALLIES COULD HOLD OUT, HE SHIFTED HIS FOCUS TO DECIDING WHETHER OR NOT TO ATTACK THE PUPA SO HE WOULDN'T HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN PRESERVING "*SMOKY JAIL*" AND SUPPORTING THEM.

ALL CLEAR.

!!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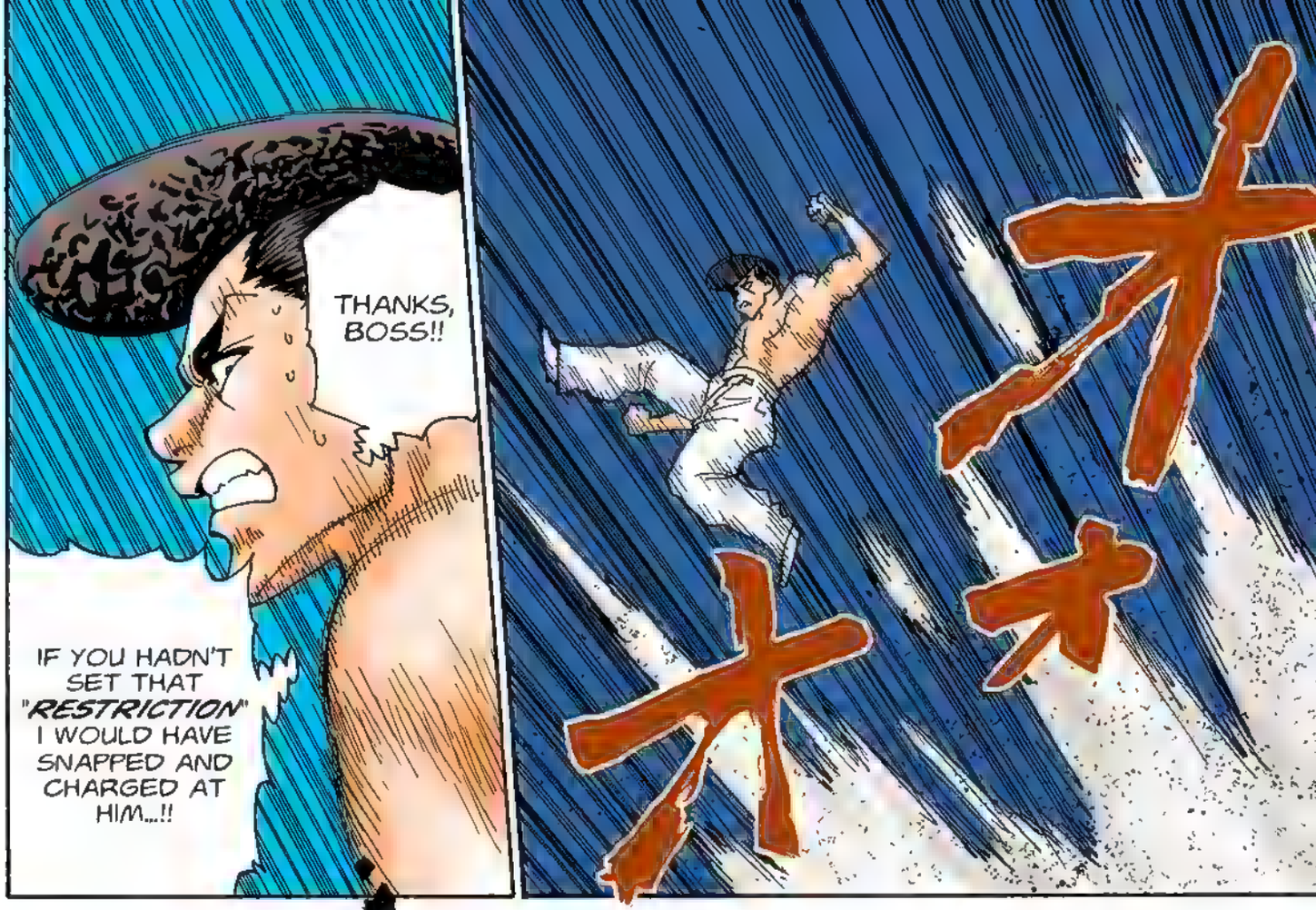
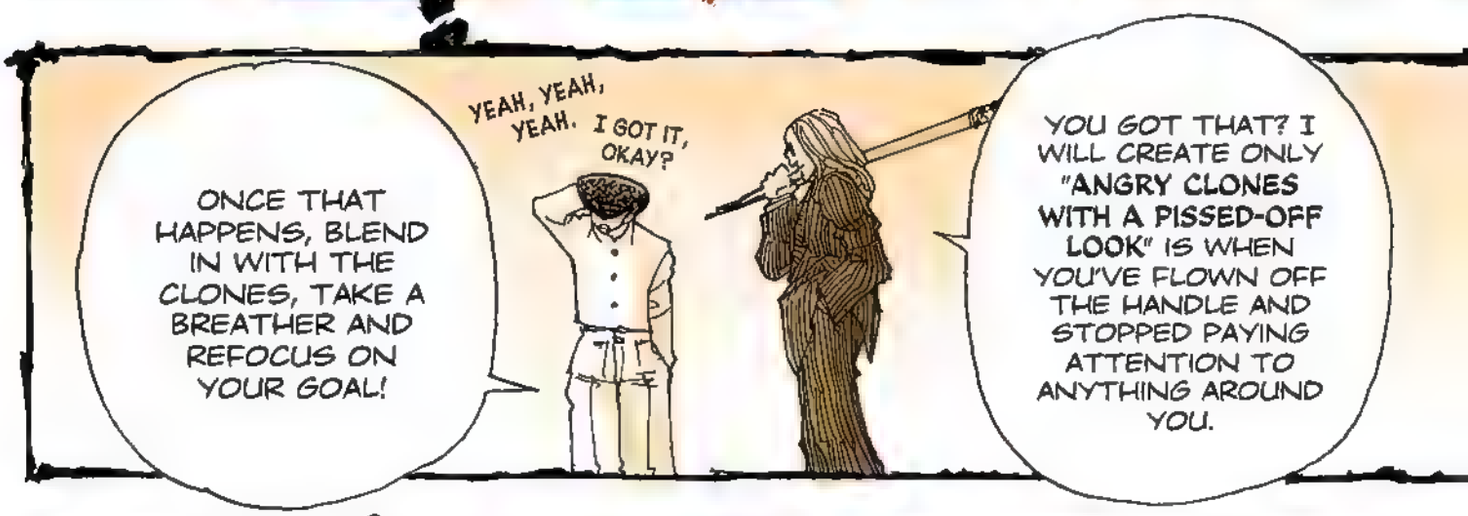
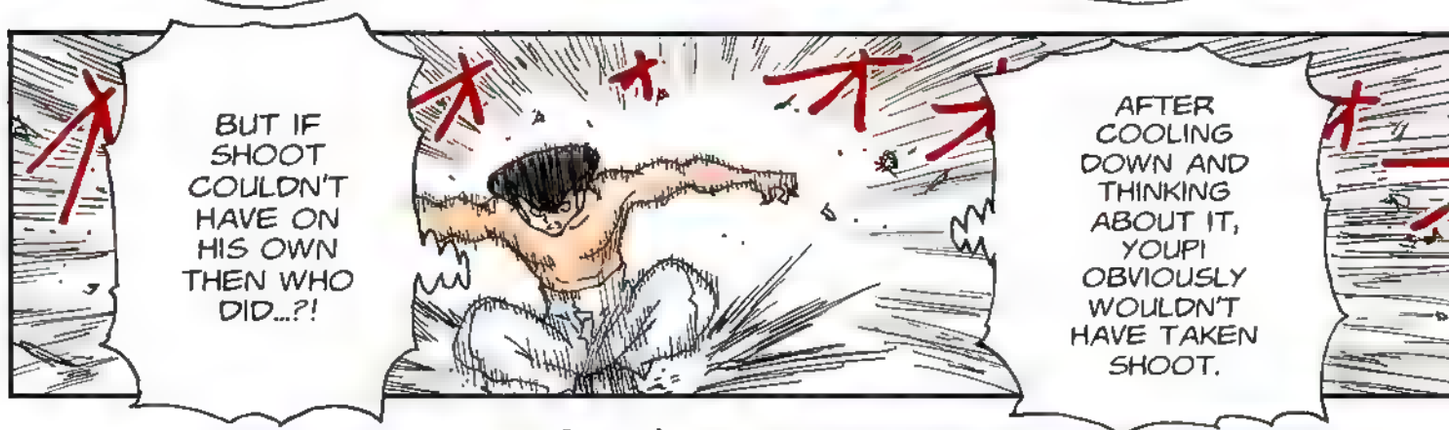
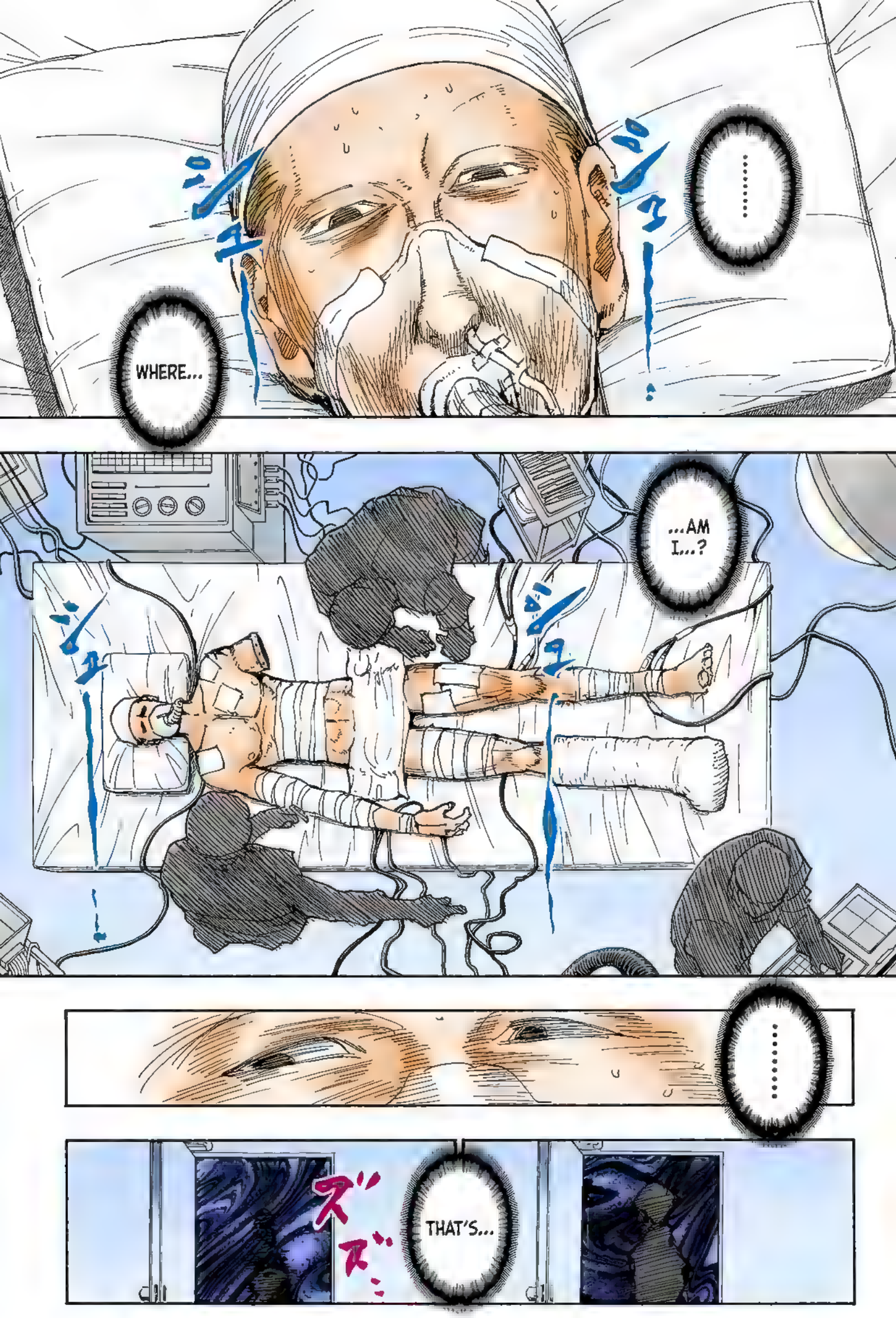
FROM HIS BATTLEFIELD KNOWLEDGE, MOREL'S CUNNING-NESS...
...SAVED HIS COMRADES.
DID HE REALLY NEED TO USE SUCH AN ABILITY?!
AN AURA EXPLO-SION?! FROM YOUPI?!
...IS LOCATING THE KING!!
...NOW I'M WORRIED. BUT MY REAL PRIORITY...

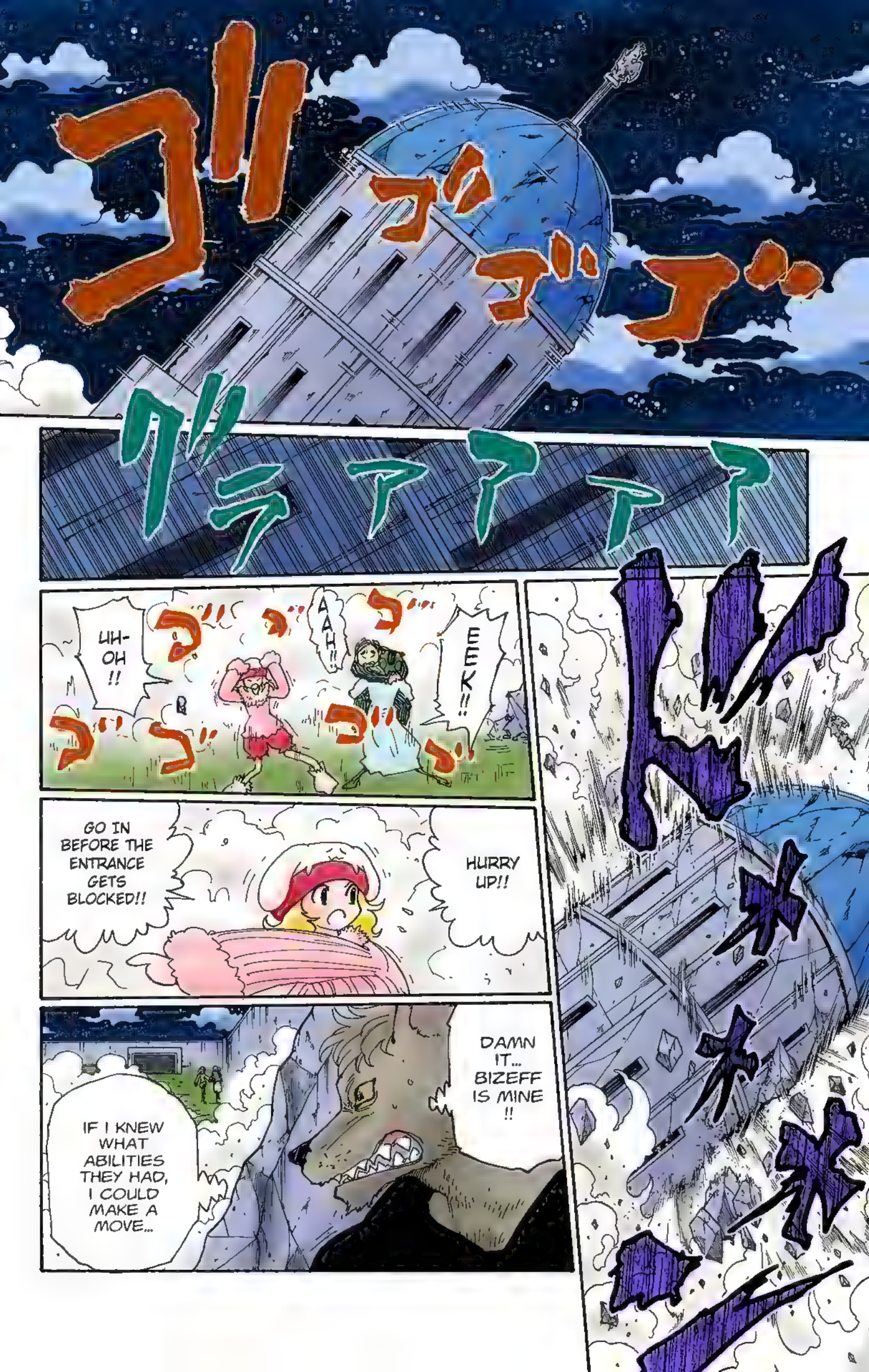

THANKS, BOSS!!
IF YOU HADN'T SET THAT "RESTRICTION" I WOULD HAVE SNAPPED AND CHARGED AT HIM...!!


ONCE THAT HAPPENS, BLEND IN WITH THE CLONES, TAKE A BREATHER AND REFOCUS ON YOUR GOAL!
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH. I GOT IT, OKAY?
YOU GOT THAT? I WILL CREATE ONLY "ANGRY CLONES WITH A PISSED-OFF LOOK" IS WHEN YOU'VE FLOWN OFF THE HANDLE AND STOPPED PAYING ATTENTION TO ANYTHING AROUND YOU.


BUT IF SHOOT COULDN'T HAVE ON HIS OWN THEN WHO DID...?!
AFTER COOLING DOWN AND THINKING ABOUT IT, YOUP! OBVIOUSLY WOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN SHOOT.

I NEED TO FOCUS 100% ON THE OPPONENT BEFORE ME!!
DAMN IT, STOP THINKING ABOUT IT!!


WHERE...
...
...AM I...?
...
THAT'S...
ズズ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UH-OH!!
AAH!!
EEK!!
GO IN BEFORE THE ENTRANCE GETS BLOCKED!!
HURRY UP!!
IF I KNEW WHAT ABILITIES THEY HAD, I COULD MAKE A MOVE...
DAMN IT... BIZEFF IS MINE!!

YOU GO SEE HOW KNUCKLE'S DOING.

ONCE I'M CHARGED UP, I'M HEADING BACK TO GON.

AT WORST, I'LL GO DOWN IN FLAMES WITH HIM, I GUESS.

ONCE GON IS IN THAT STATE, HE WON'T BUDGE.

.....

...THEN YOU AND KNUCKLE DECIDE TO FIGHT OR RETREAT.

GAUGE THE SITUATION ...

POUF IS OUTSIDE THE BARRIER, SO IT'S POSSIBLE THE BIG GUY WAS TAKEN OUT.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

I'VE ALWAYS GOT THE MAGIC WORD, "KITE"!

WE'LL BE FINE.

I'M JUST KIDDING!

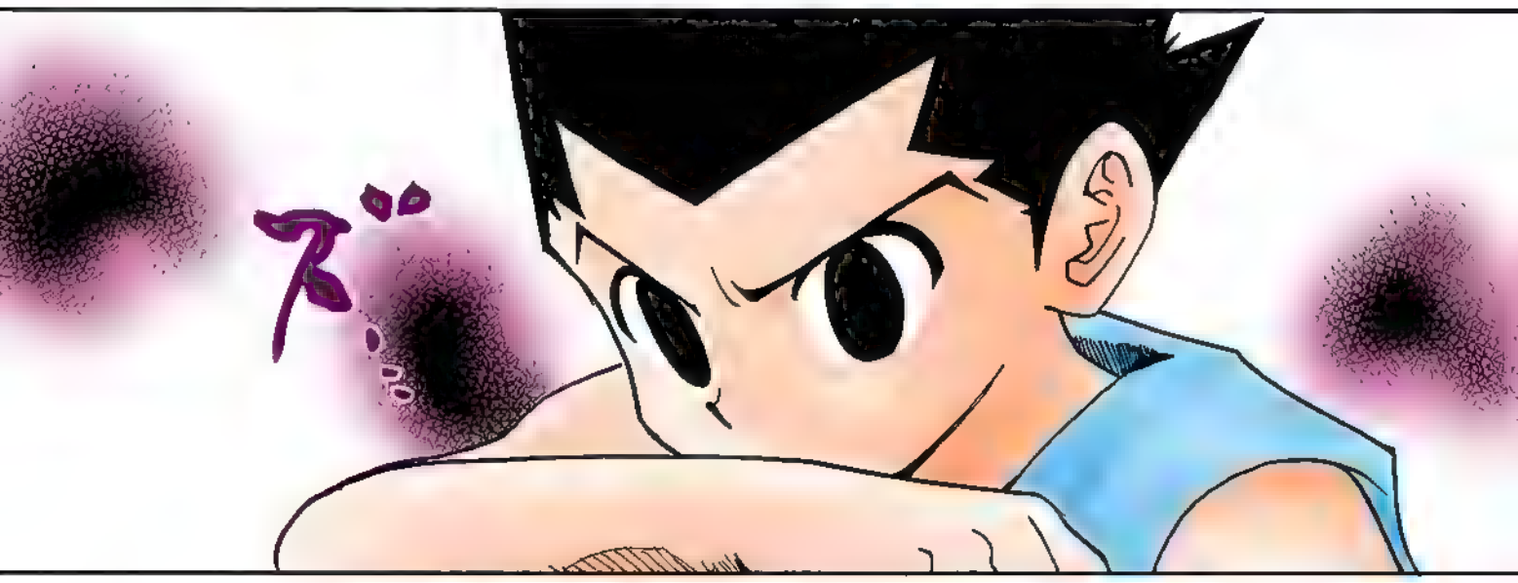
BACK THEN...

THEN WHY DID YOU...

ARE YOU SURE...?

LEAVE IT TO ME.

...SAD BACK THERE?
WHY DID YOU LOOK SO...
YOU SURE ABOUT THIS...?
.....
...THEN I CAN'T ASK, AND I WON'T. YOU GOT THAT?
CAN'T YOU TELL ME? DO YOU WANT TO?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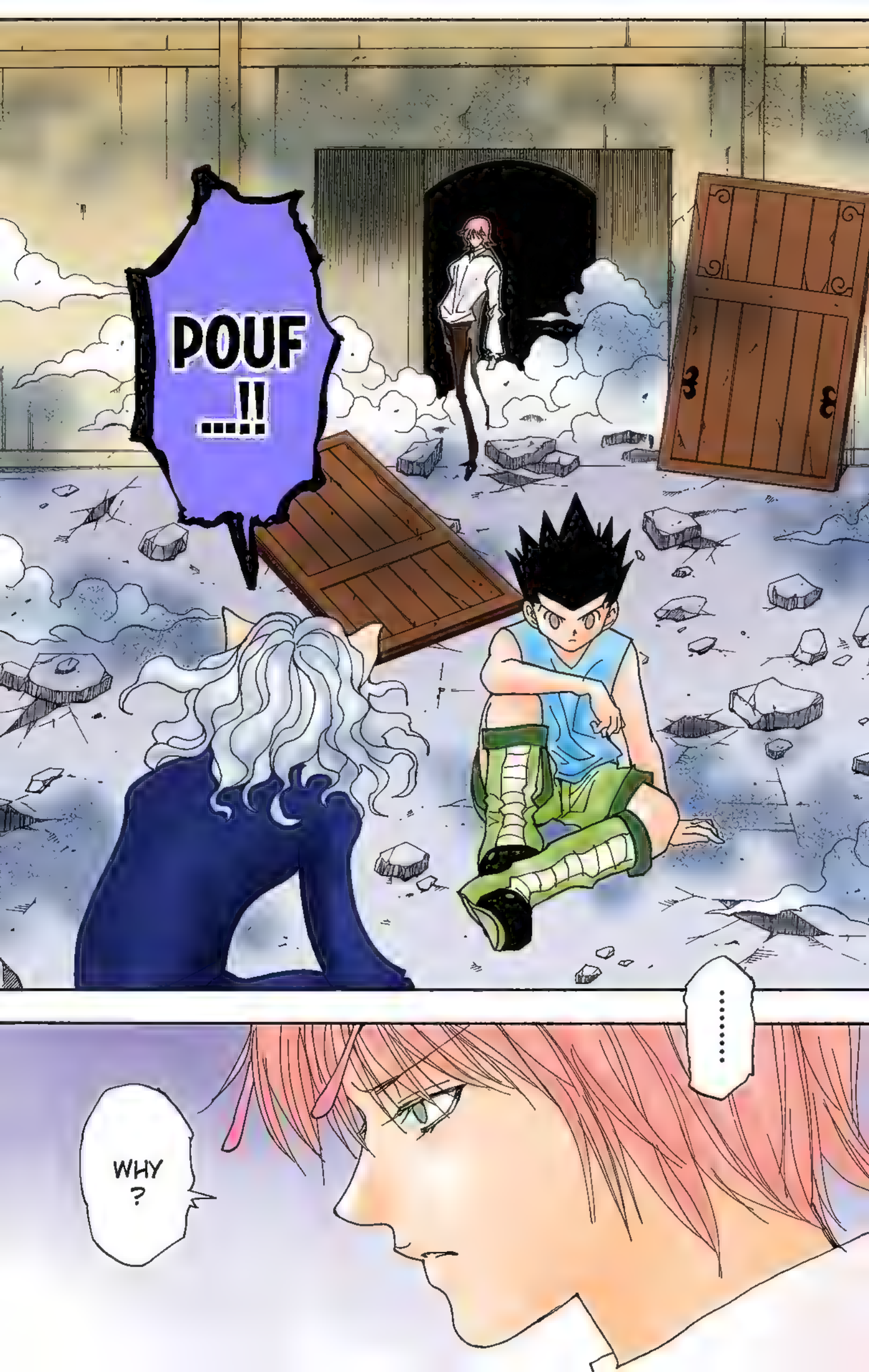
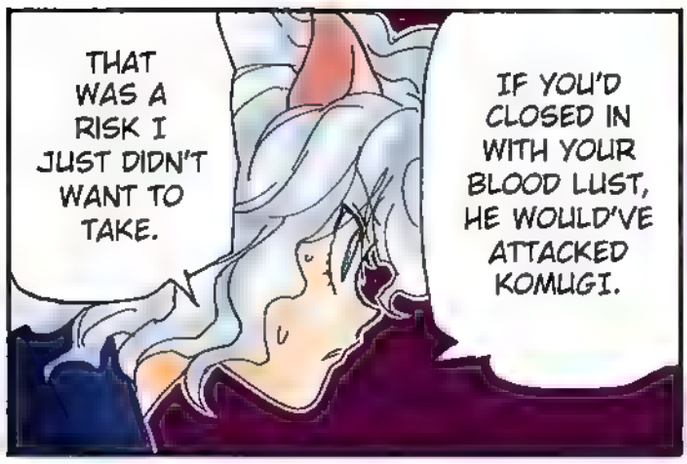
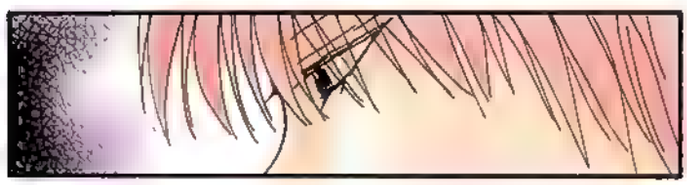
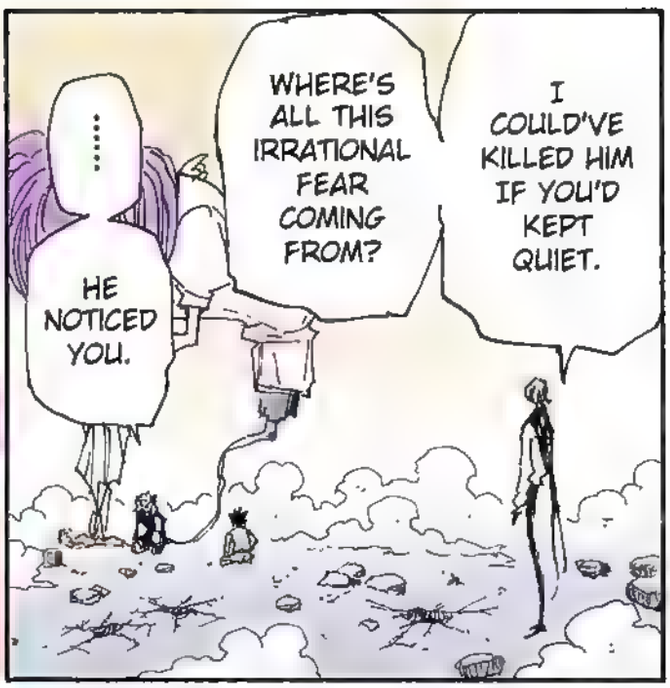
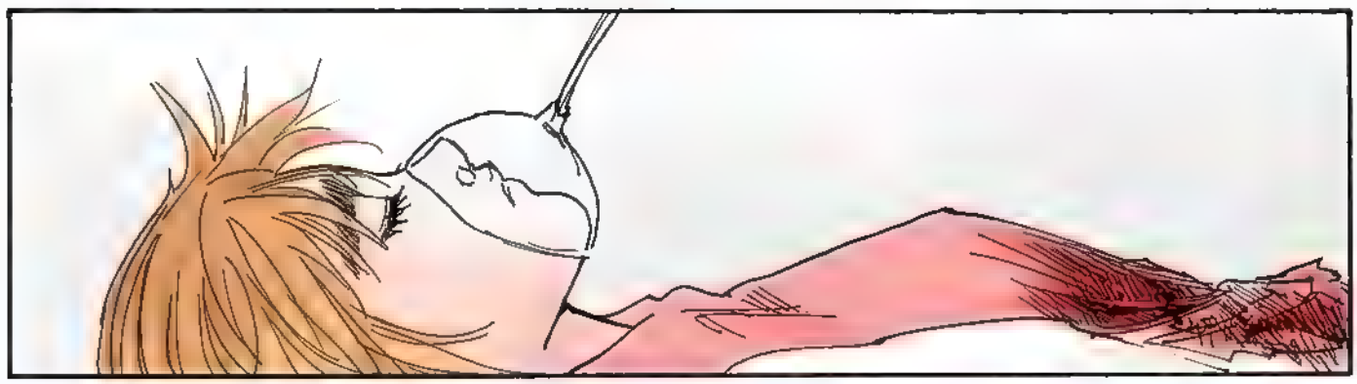
DON'T COME...
...ANY CLOSER.

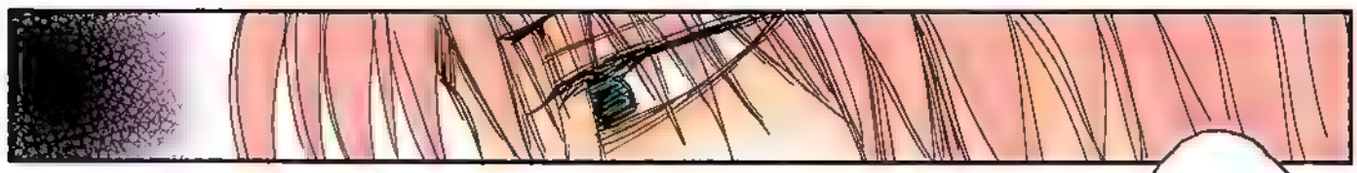

POUF ...!!
.....
WHY ?


THAT WAS A RISK I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE.
IF YOU'D CLOSED IN WITH YOUR BLOOD LUST, HE WOULD'VE ATTACKED KOMUGI.

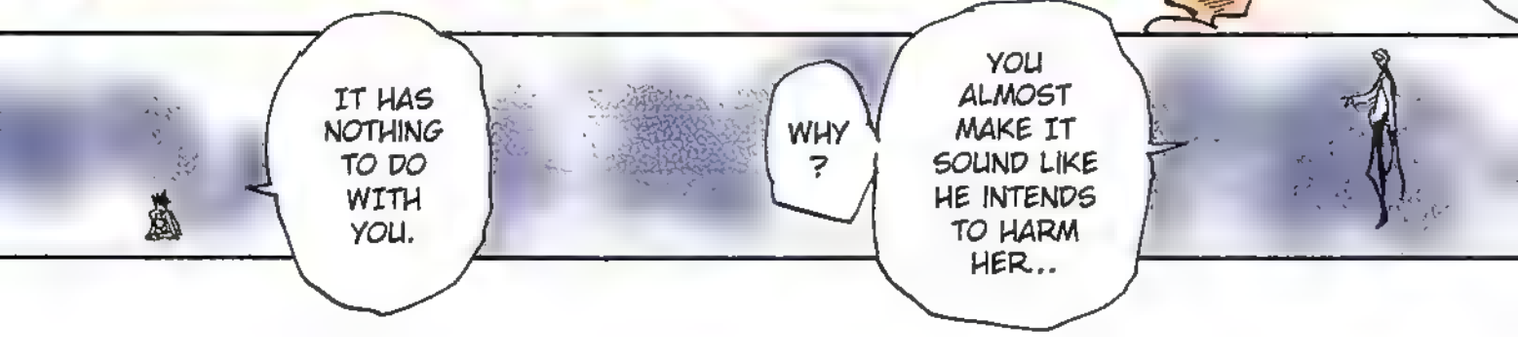


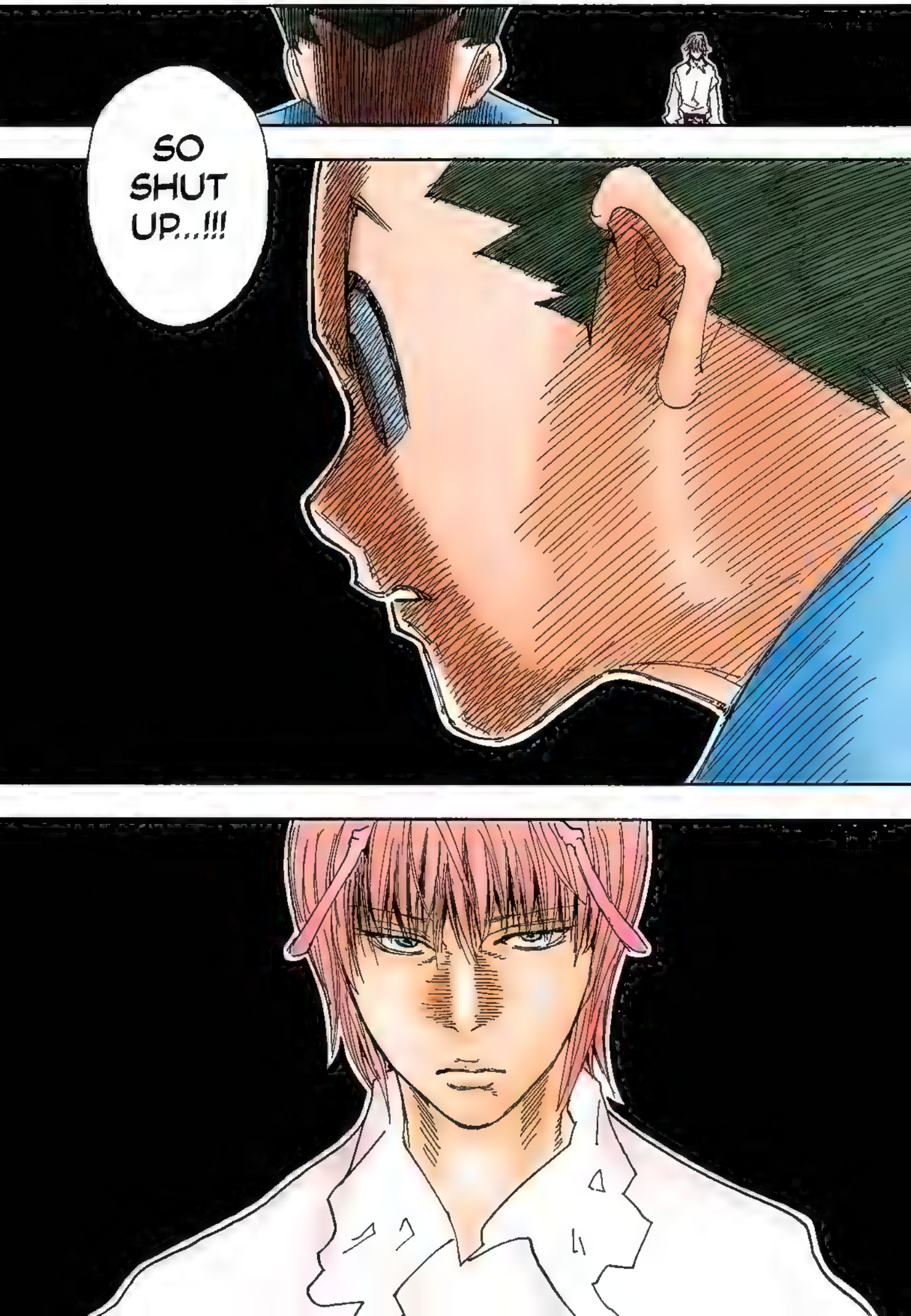

.....
HE NOTICED YOU.
WHERE'S ALL THIS IRRATIONAL FEAR COMING FROM?
I COULD'VE KILLED HIM IF YOU'D KEPT QUIET.

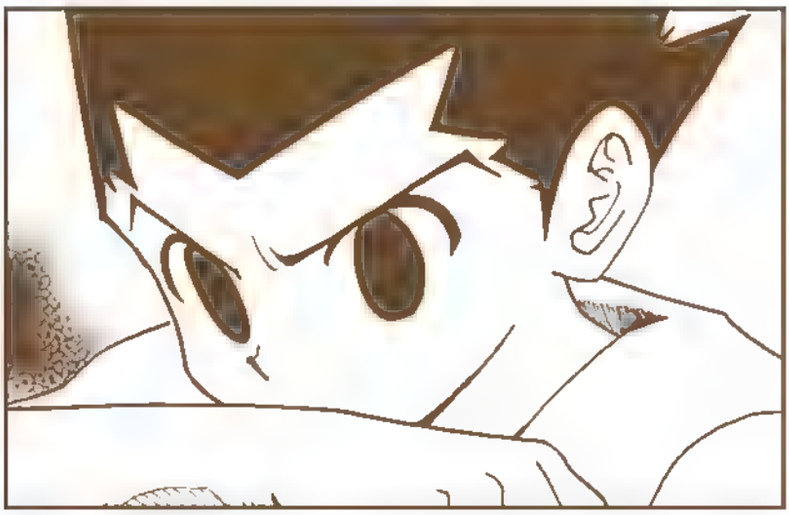




ISN'T HE SITTING THERE BECAUSE HE WANTS TO HELP THAT GIRL?
YOUR WORDS BAFFLE ME.


IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
WHY ?
YOU ALMOST MAKE IT SOUND LIKE HE INTENDS TO HARM HER..


SO SHUT UP...!!!



No.287 ◆ PRESENT STATE
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……
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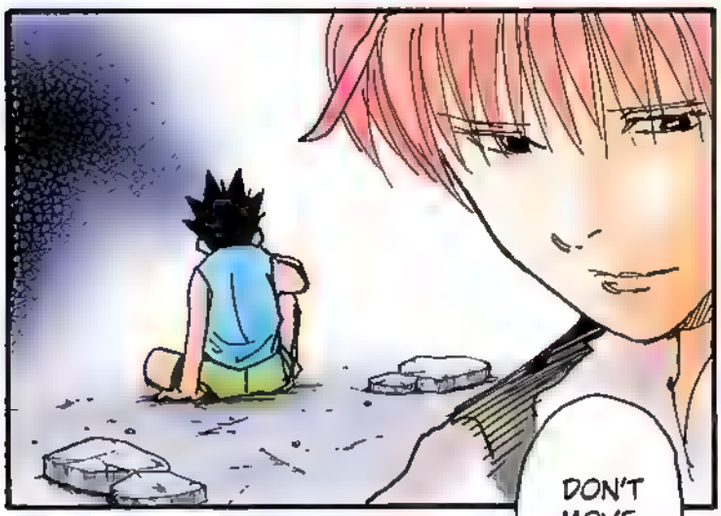
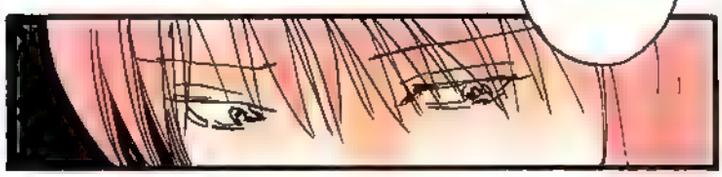
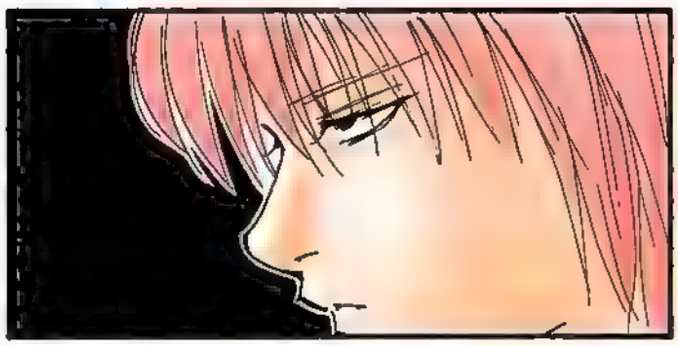
SHUT UP ...?
I'M DOWN-WIND, HUH...



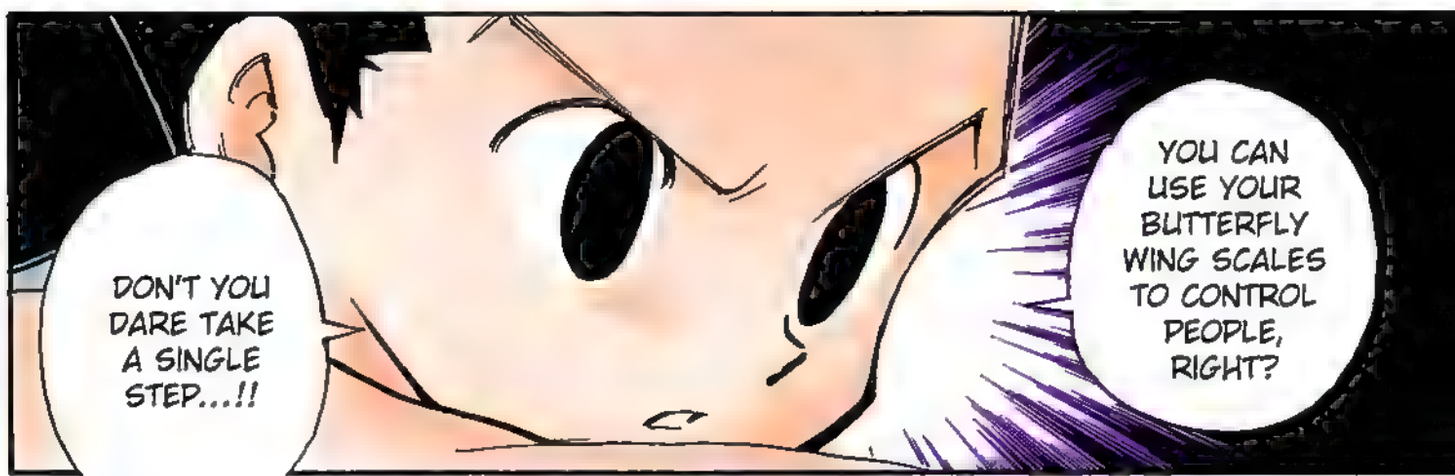


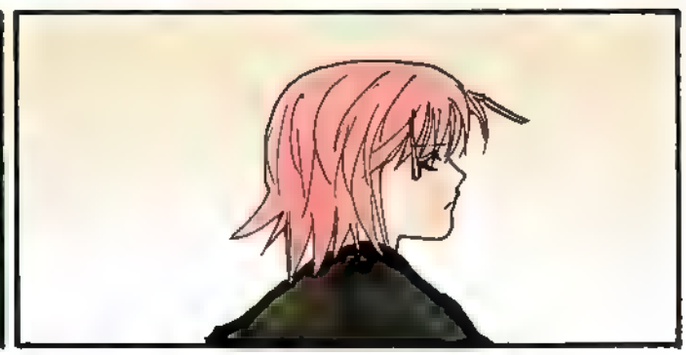
DON'T MOVE.

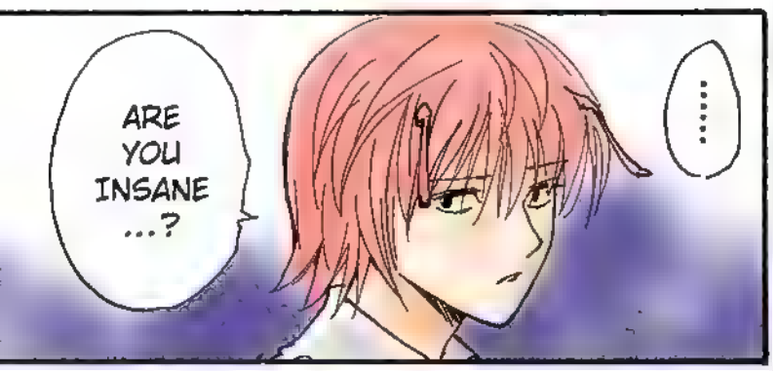
PITOU ...
I'LL LET YOU HANDLE THIS, THEN.
HMH... LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT NEEDED HERE.

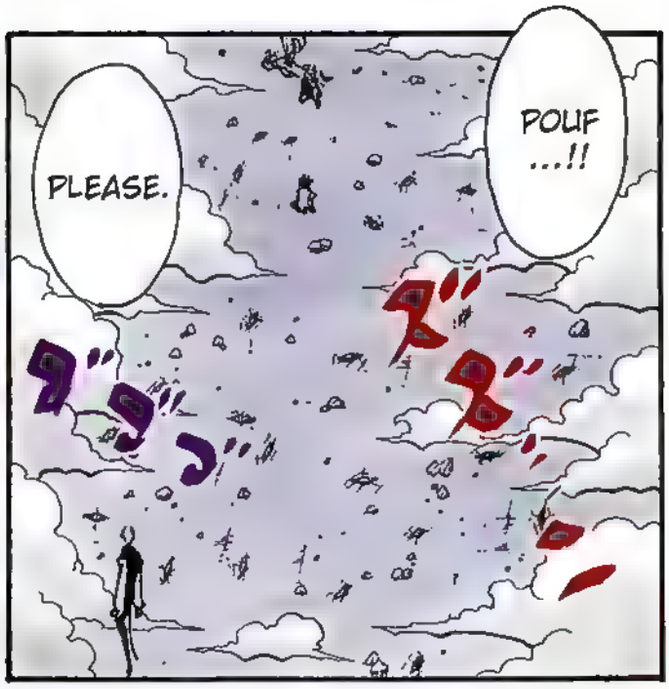


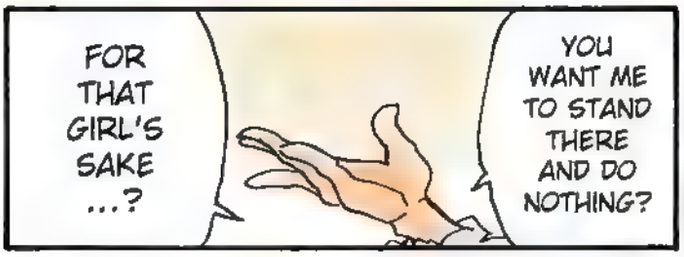
STAY RIGHT THERE.

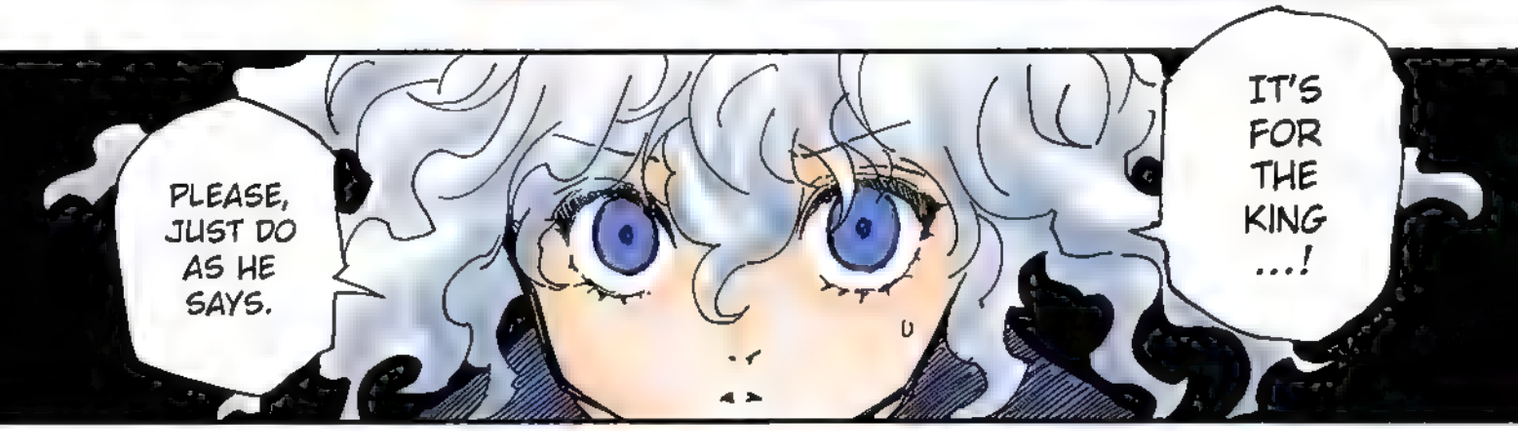

DON'T YOU DARE TAKE A SINGLE STEP...!!
YOU CAN USE YOUR BUTTERFLY WING SCALES TO CONTROL PEOPLE, RIGHT?



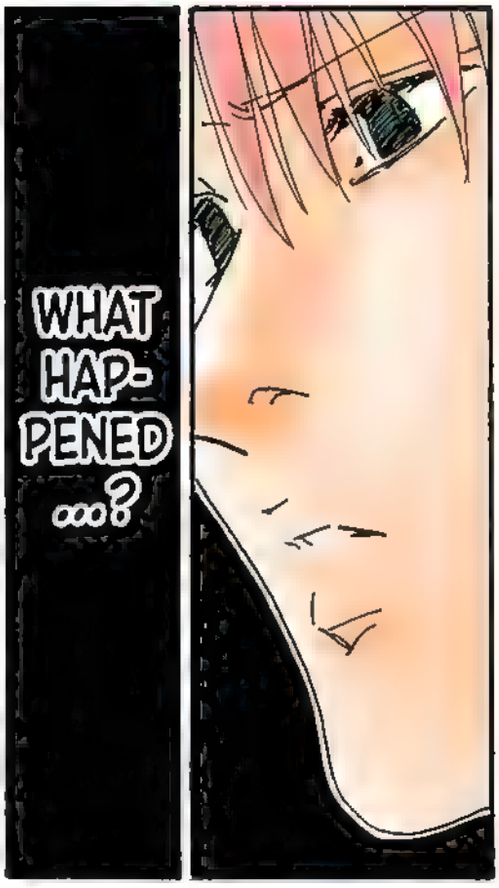

ARE YOU INSANE ...?
.....


PLEASE.
POUF ...!!

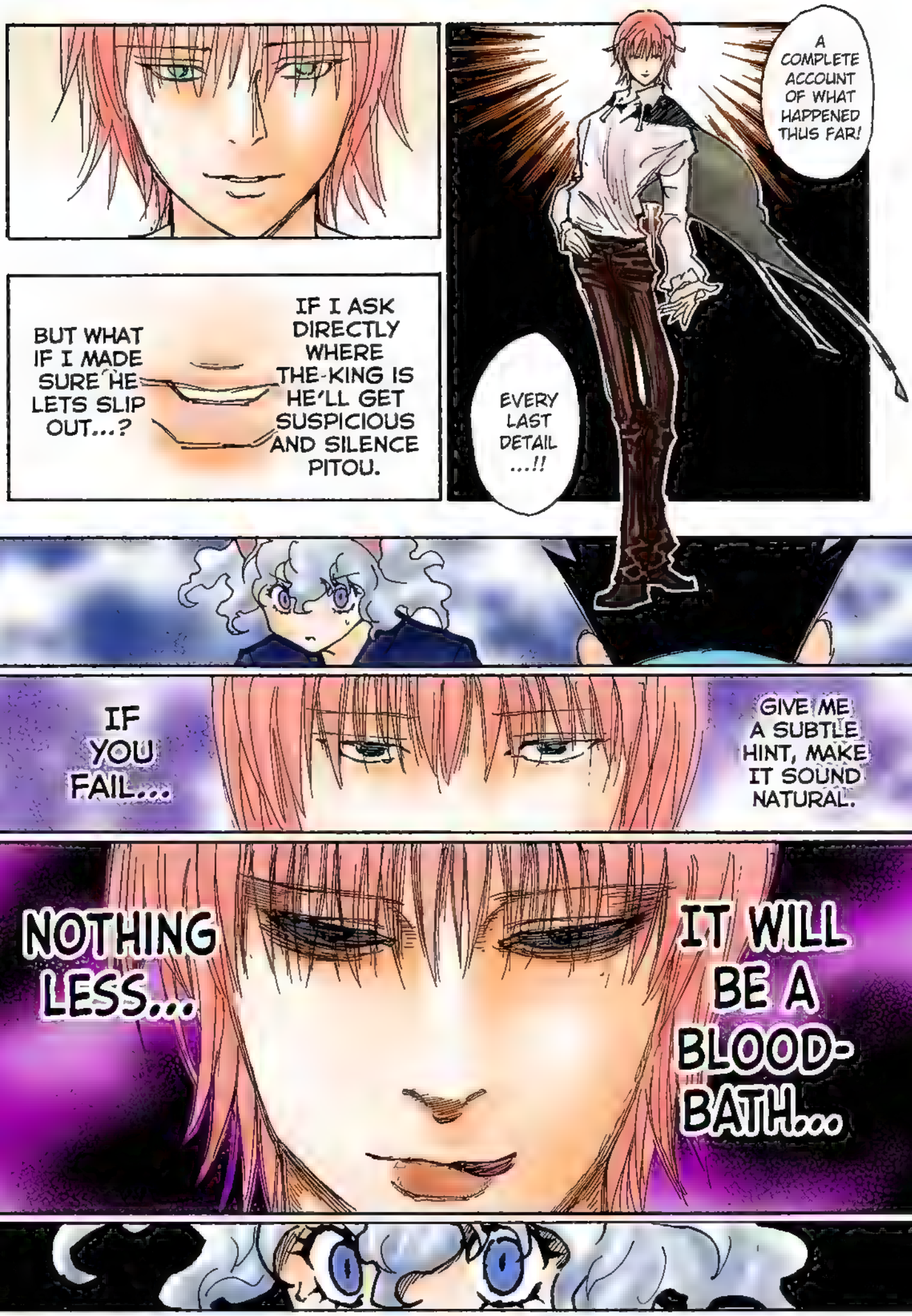

FOR THAT GIRL'S SAKE ...?
YOU WANT ME TO STAND THERE AND DO NOTHING?


PLEASE, JUST DO AS HE SAYS.
IT'S FOR THE KING ...!

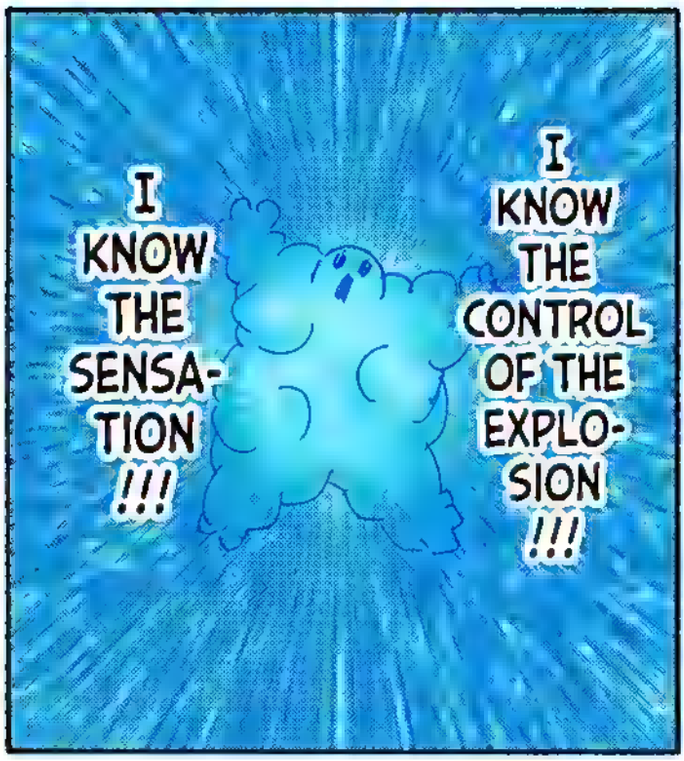
WHAT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS IMPRISONED ...?!
YOUR ATTITUDE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...

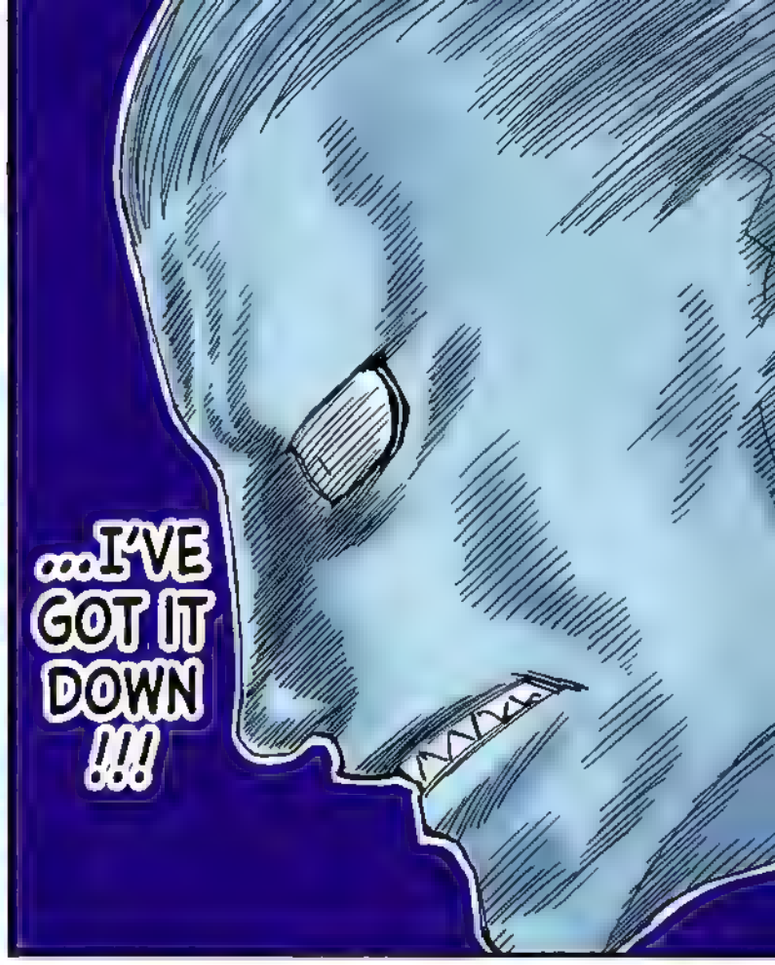

WHAT HAP-PENED ...?

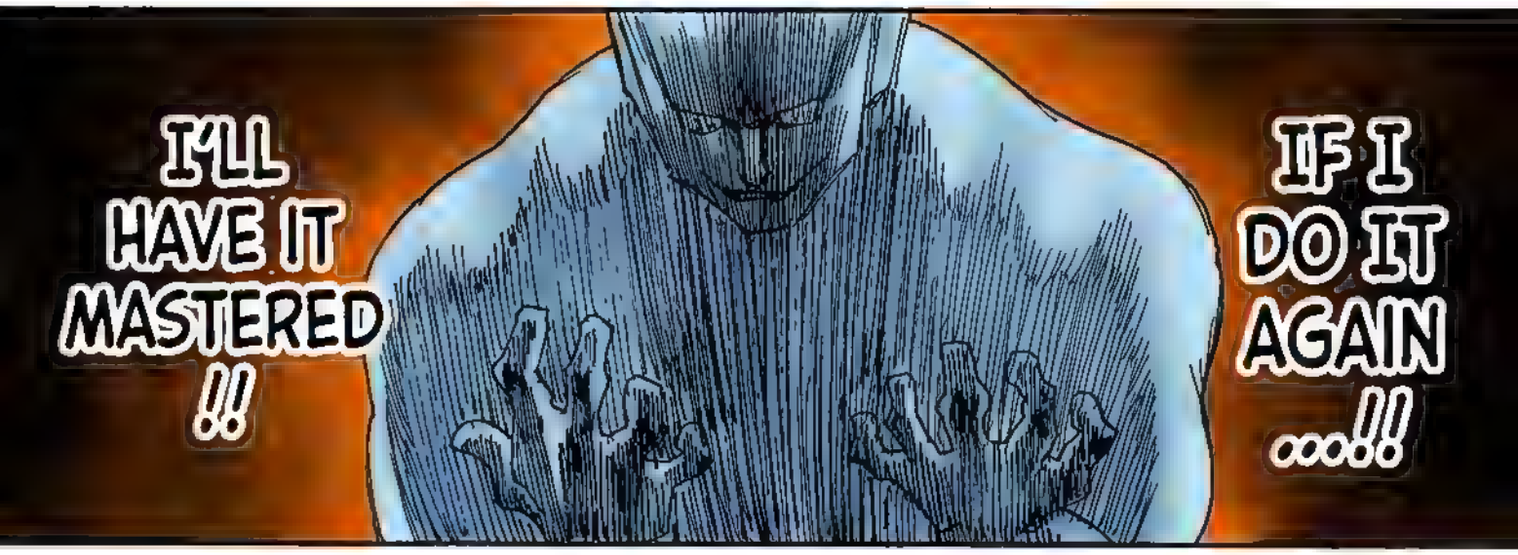
IN RETURN, I WANT YOU TO TELL ME SOMETHING.
I PROMISE THAT... "I" SHALL NOT MOVE FROM THIS SPOT.


A COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED THUS FAR!
EVERY LAST DETAIL ...!!
BUT WHAT IF I MADE SURE HE LETS SLIP OUT...?
IF I ASK DIRECTLY WHERE THE KING IS HE'LL GET SUSPICIOUS AND SILENCE PITOU.
IF YOU FAIL...
GIVE ME A SUBTLE HINT, MAKE IT SOUND NATURAL.
NOTHING LESS...
IT WILL BE A BLOOD-BATH...

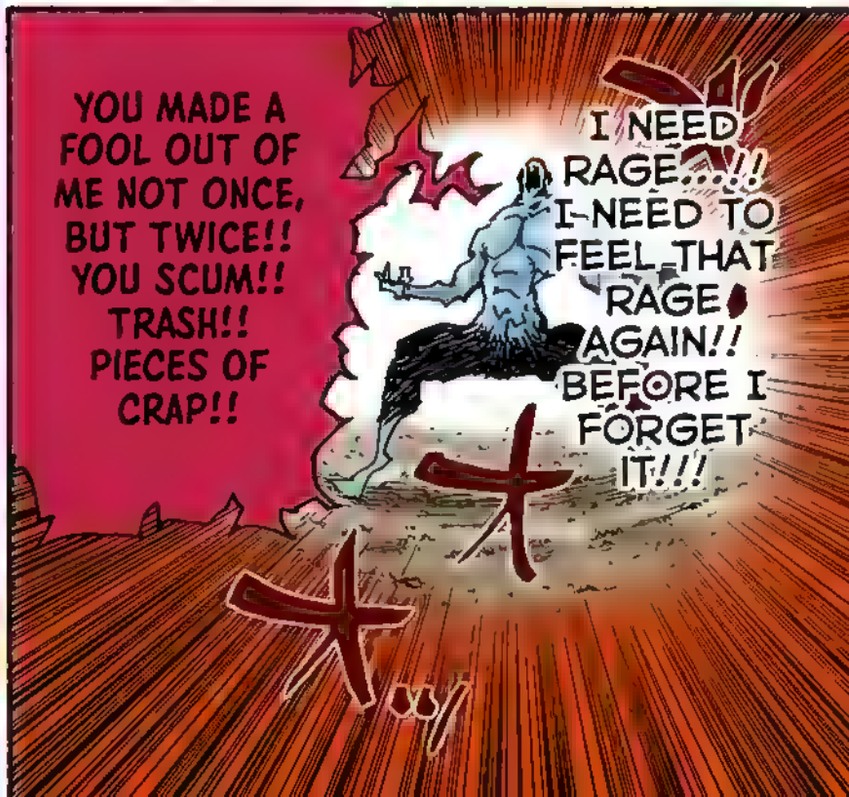
IT'S TIME.
YOU'VE ACCRUED INTEREST.
50091
……

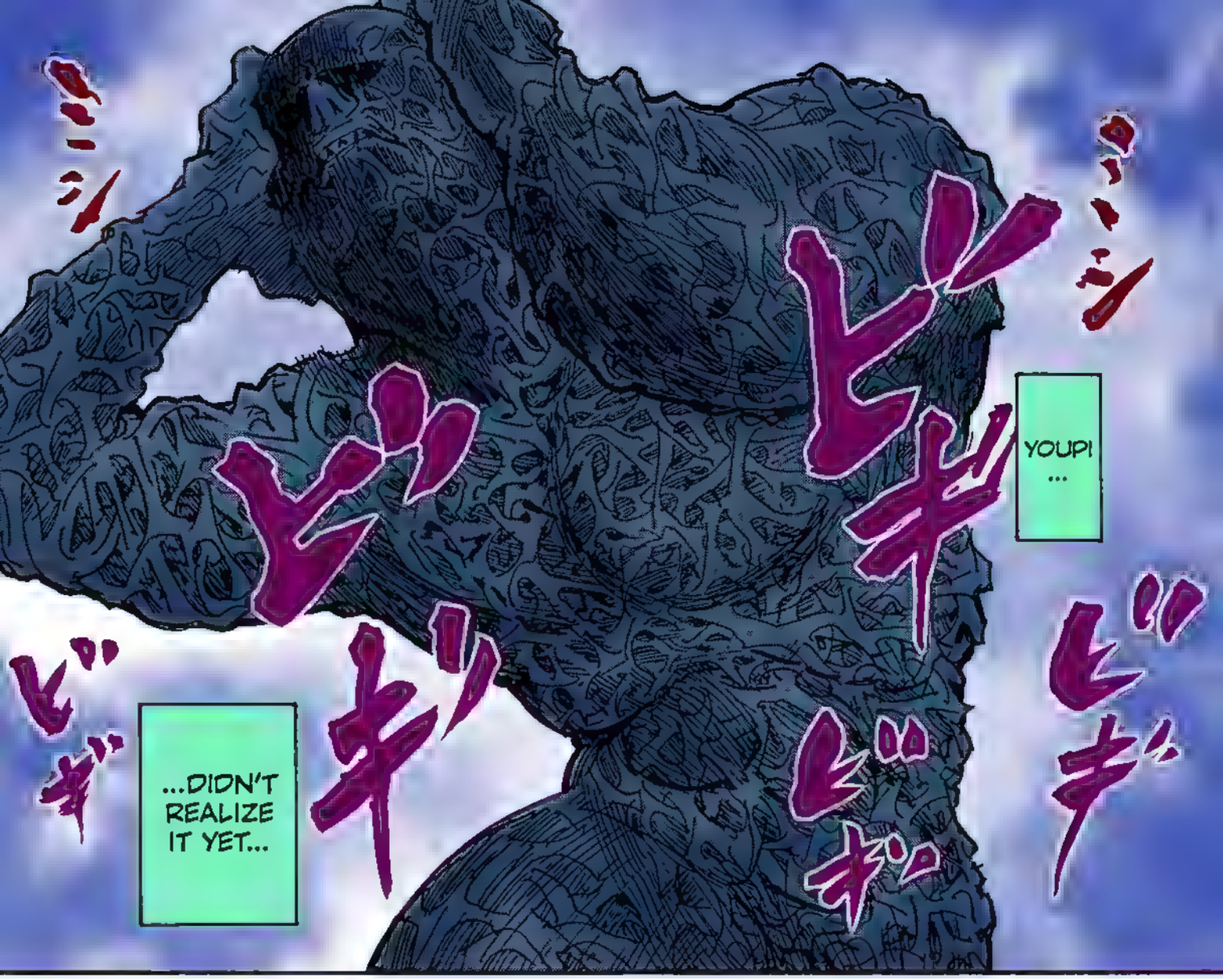

I KNOW THE SENSA-TION !!!
I KNOW THE CONTROL OF THE EXPLO-SION !!!

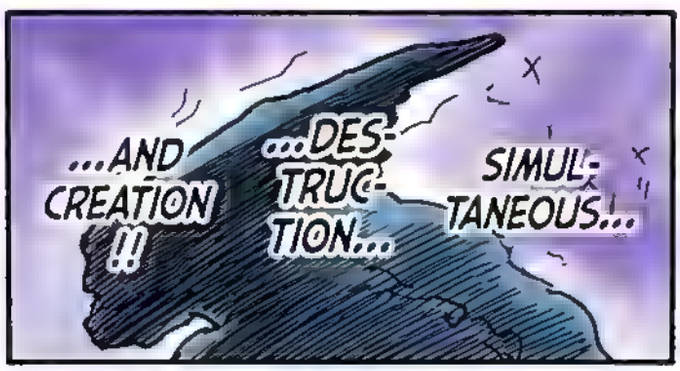

...I'VE GOT IT DOWN !!!


I'LL HAVE IT MASTERED !!
IF I DO IT AGAIN ...!!

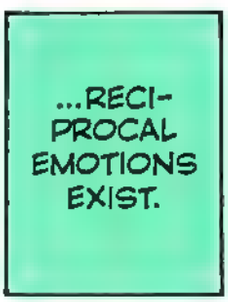
GR AAA AAA HH


YOU MADE A FOOL OUT OF ME NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE!! YOU SCUM!! TRASH!! PIECES OF CRAP!!
I NEED RAGE...!! I NEED TO FEEL THAT RAGE AGAIN!! BEFORE I FORGET IT!!!





...THROUGH MY BODY!!



MANIFEST IT...

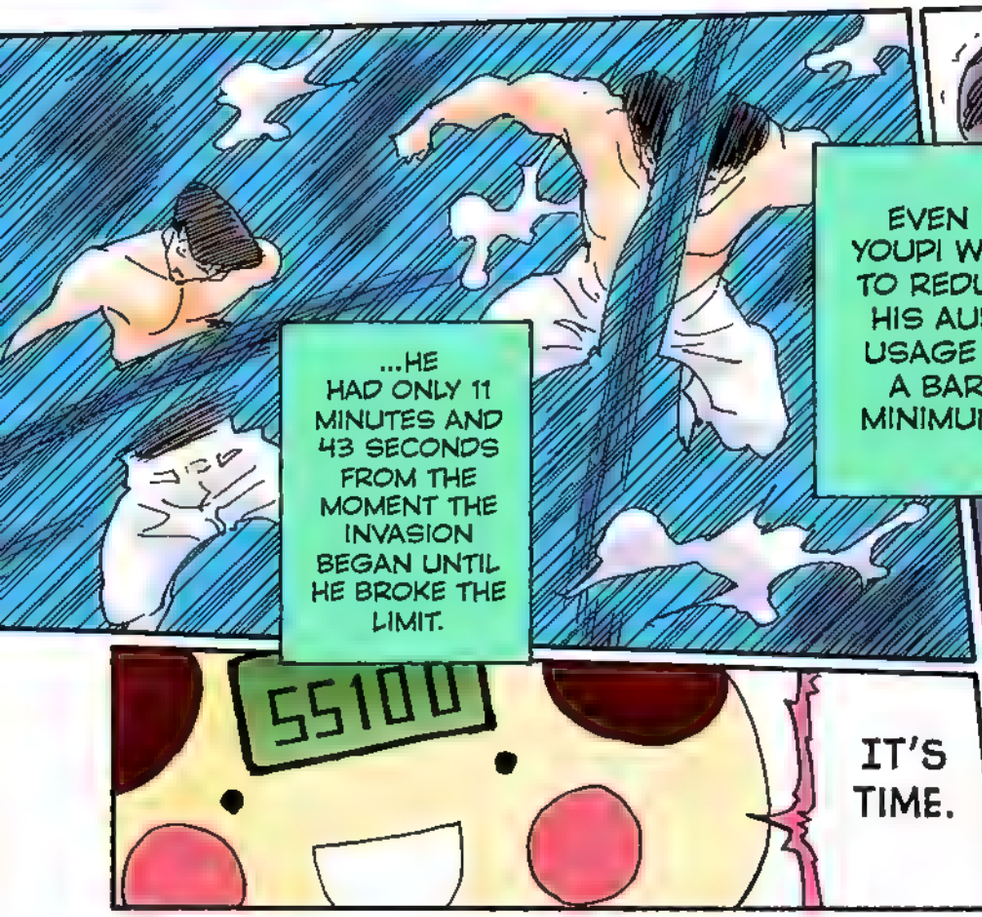
...HIS PRESENT STATE.
THIS IS RAGE INCARNATE !!!!

...SHOULD NOT FLOW FREELY..
RAGE...
IT'S MEANT TO BE DIRECTED!!!
HAH
TO MOREL AND KNUCKLE, YOUPI'S AURA MUST HAVE FELT UTTERLY INEX-HAUSTIBLE.
I'LL KILL ALL OF YOU!!
HAA HAA HAA HAA HAA
IT WAS BEING CONSUMED WITH EACH EXPLOSION AND TRANS-FORMATION.

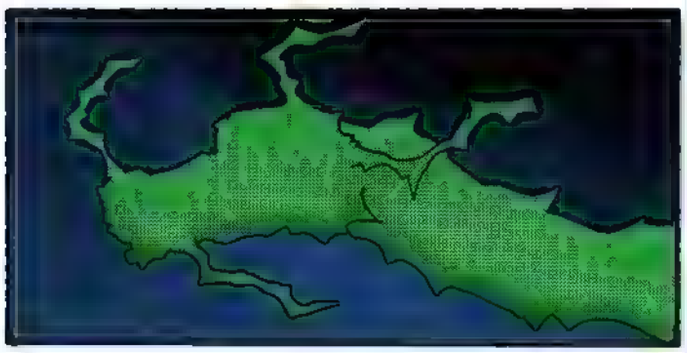
HIS REMAINING AURA WAS UNDER 500,000.
!
A.P.R.'S INTEREST IS CALCULATED ASSUMING THAT AURA CONSUMPTION WILL CONTINUE TO RISE AT THE CURRENT STATE.
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT! ANOTHER FAKE, FINE WITH ME!!!
HAA HAA!

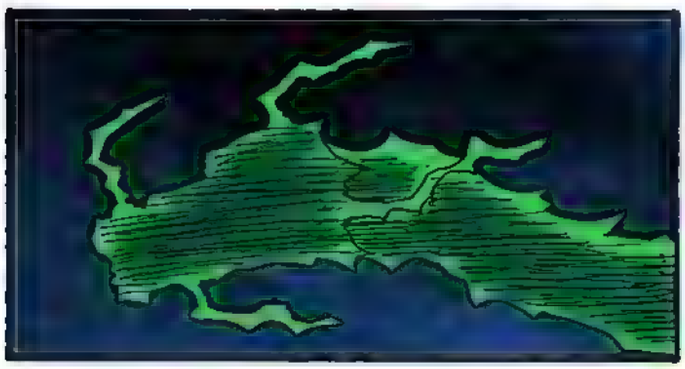
MAKE ME EVEN MORE ANGRIER, COME ON!!!

MORE, MORE !!!!



YOU'VE ACCRUED INTEREST.
...HE WOULD LOSE HIS NEN ABILITIES.
IN ANOTHER 3 MINUTES AND 50 SECONDS...
GOGIO
0:07:53:49





OH.

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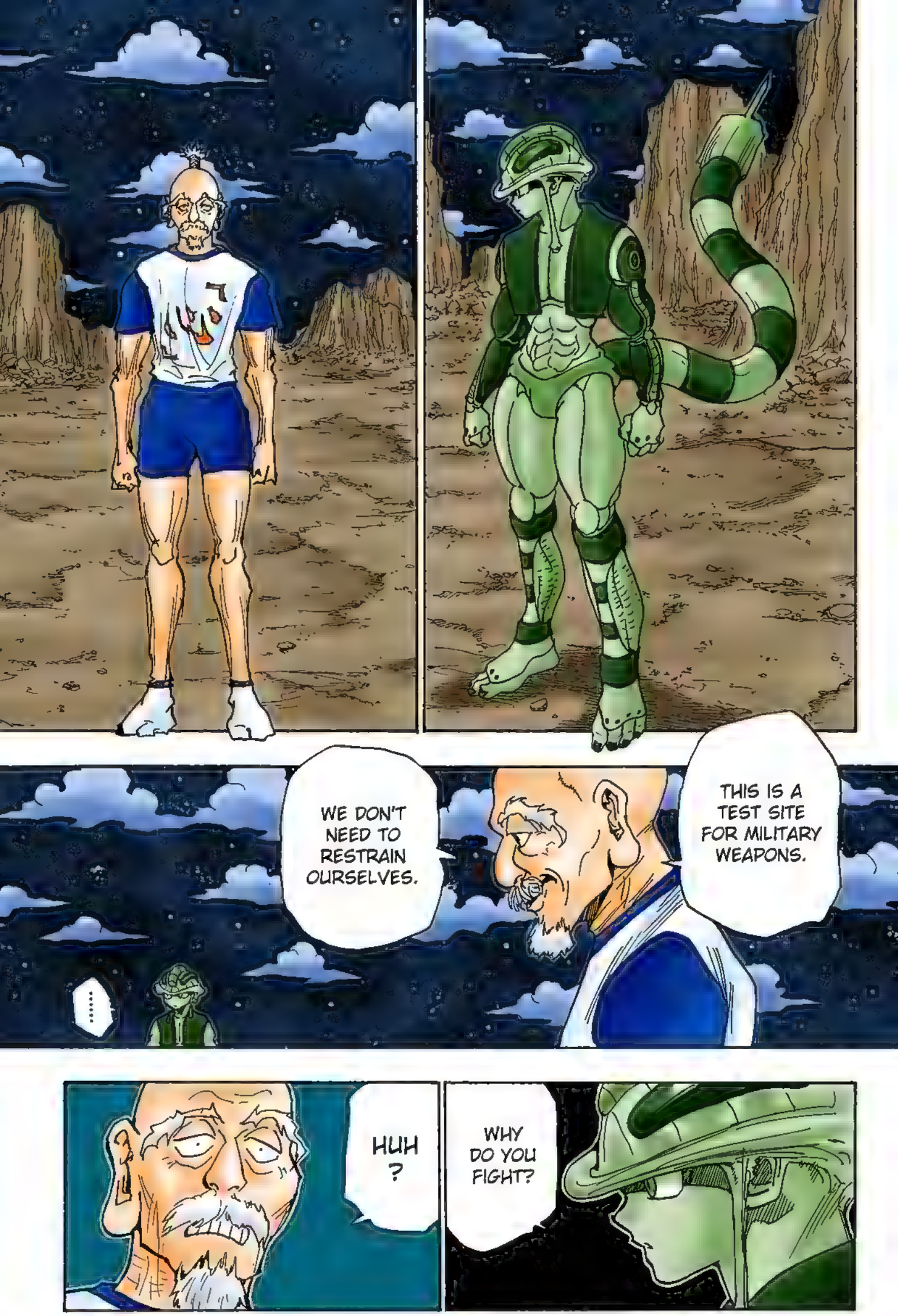
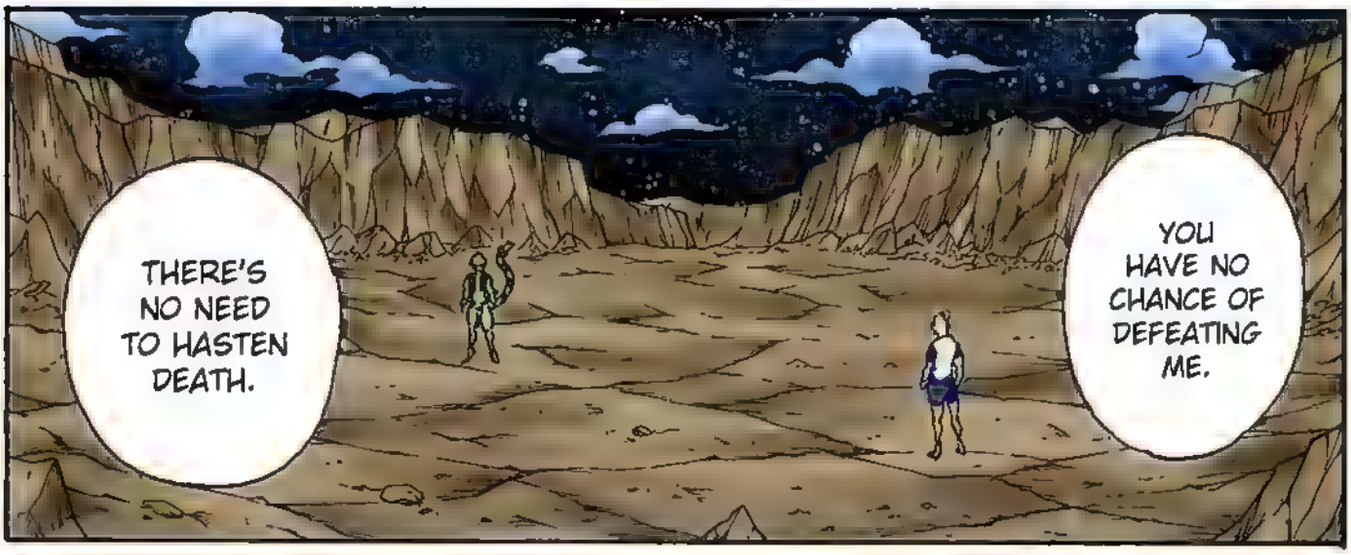
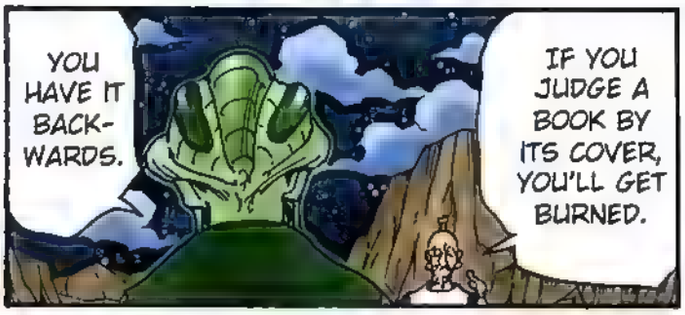
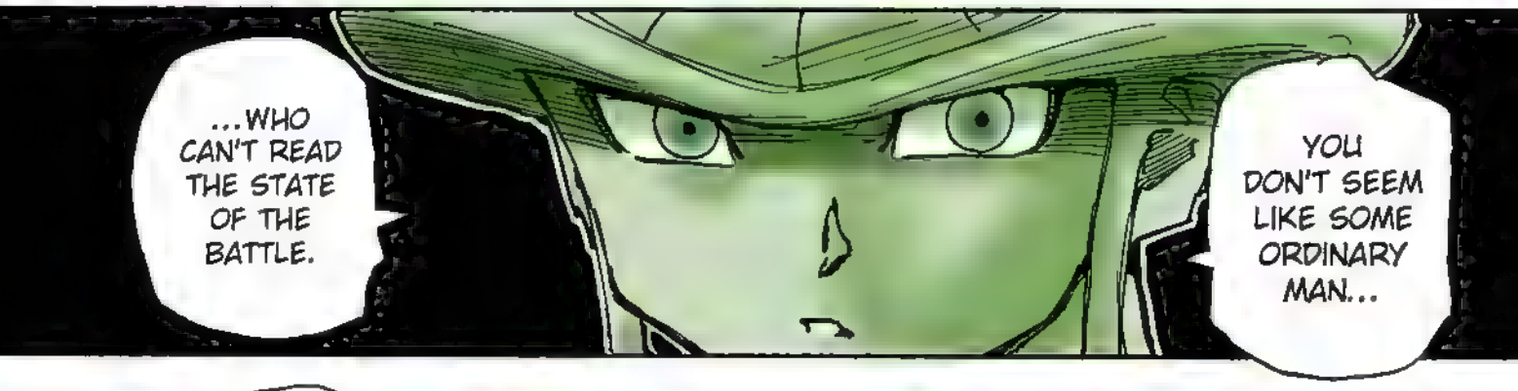

WE DON'T NEED TO RESTRAIN OURSELVES.
THIS IS A TEST SITE FOR MILITARY WEAPONS.
.....
HUH ?
WHY DO YOU FIGHT?

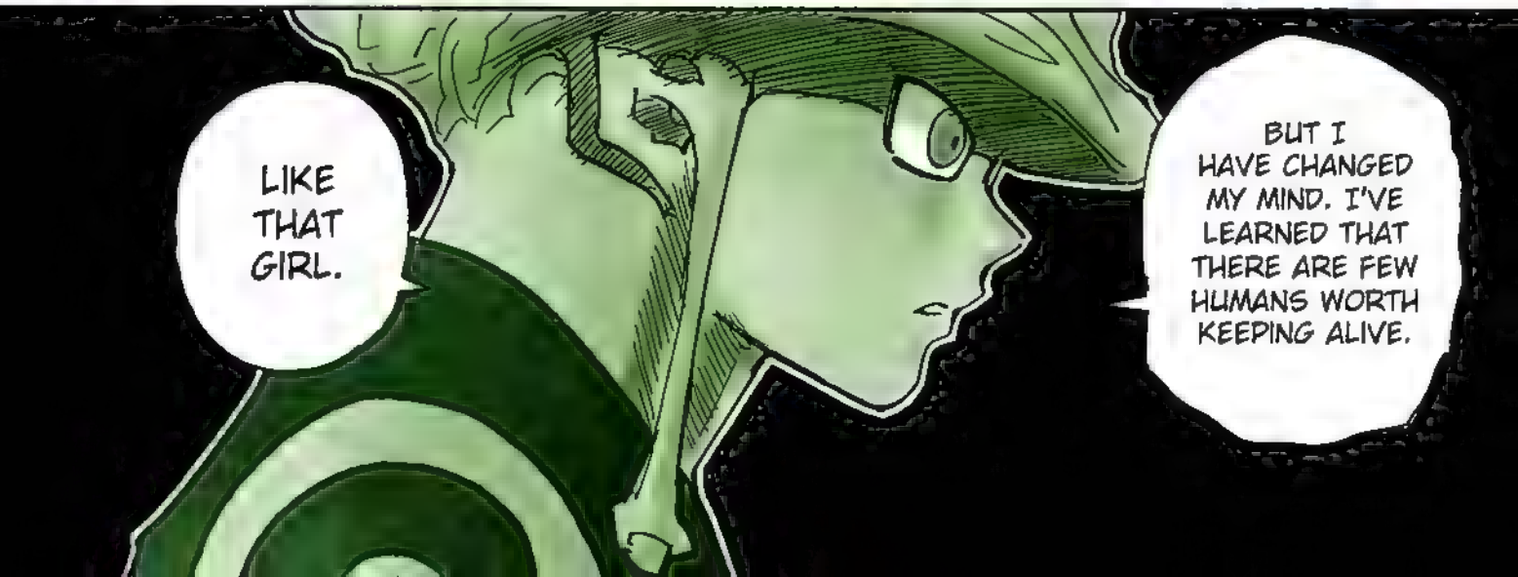

THERE'S NO NEED TO HASTEN DEATH.
YOU HAVE NO CHANCE OF DEFEATING ME.


YOU HAVE IT BACK-WARDS.
IF YOU JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER, YOU'LL GET BURNED.

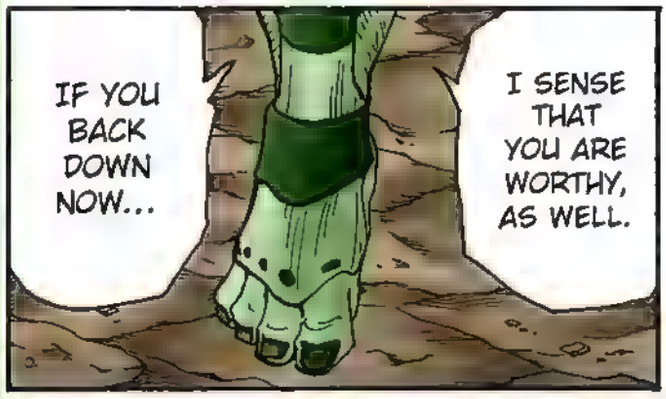
YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT ME.
YOU PRESUME TO KNOW I CAN'T WIN?

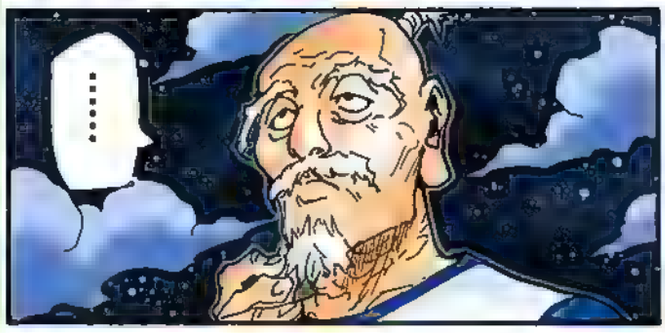

...WHO CAN'T READ THE STATE OF THE BATTLE.
YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE SOME ORDINARY MAN...

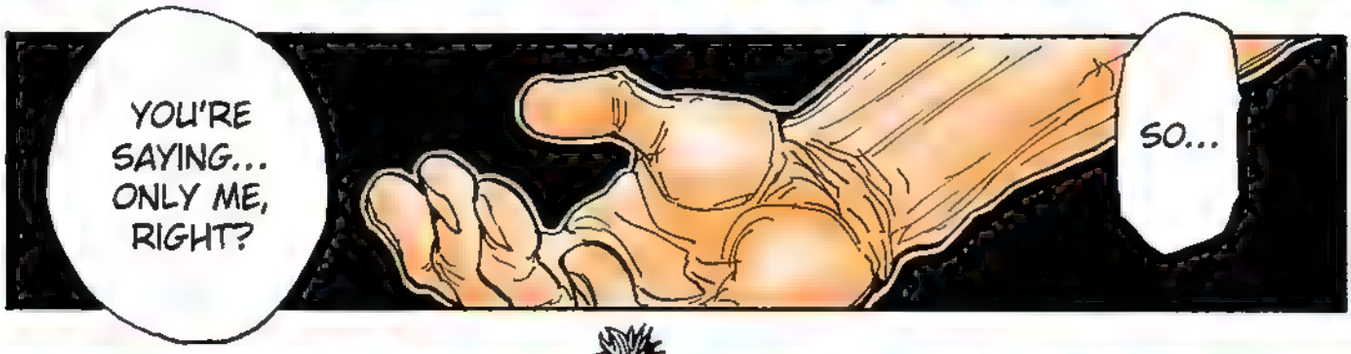
ORIGINALLY, YOU HUMANS WERE NO MORE THAN LIVESTOCK TO ME.
I WAS BORN TO RULE THIS WORLD.

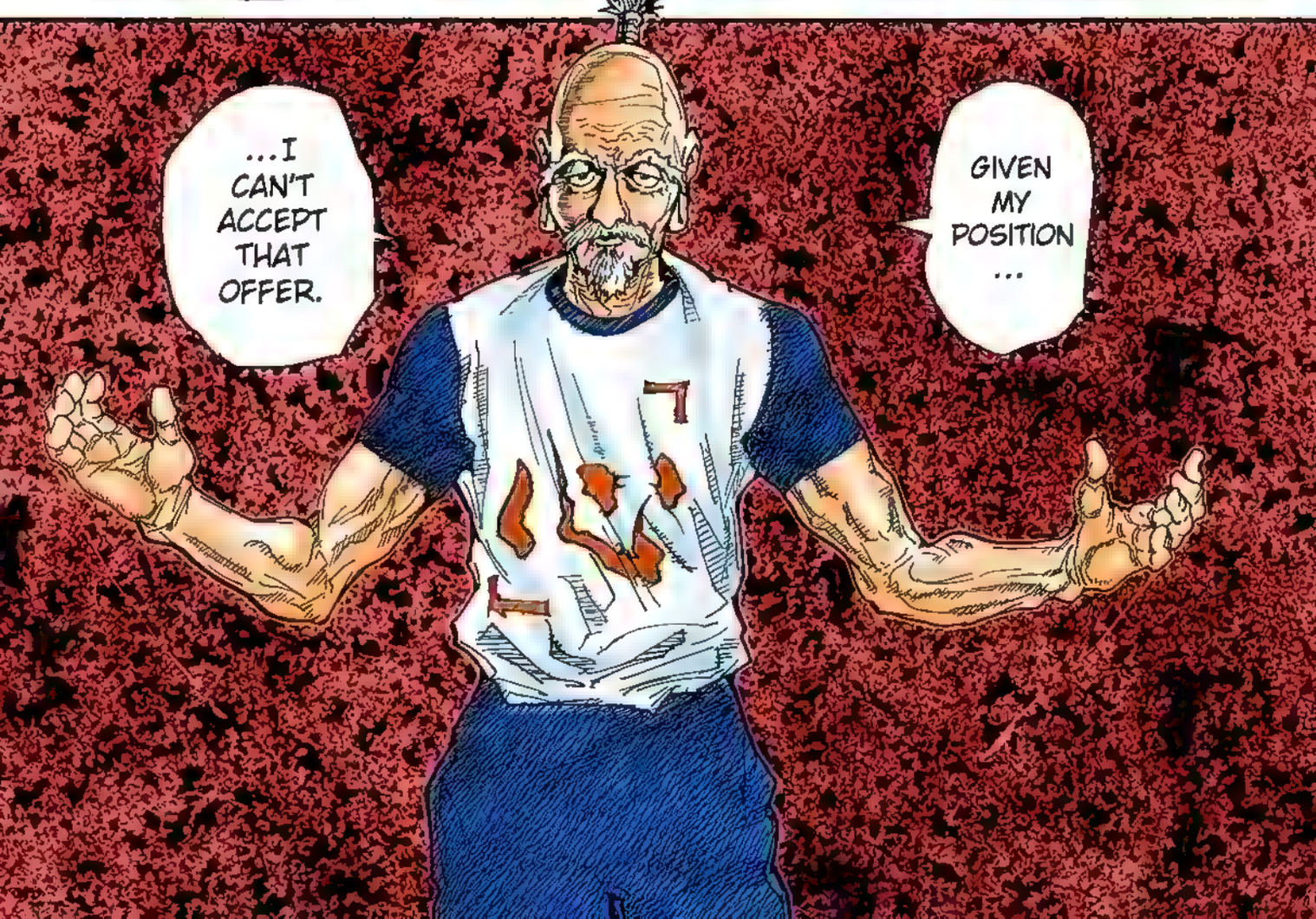

LIKE THAT GIRL.
BUT I HAVE CHANGED MY MIND. I'VE LEARNED THAT THERE ARE FEW HUMANS WORTH KEEPING ALIVE.

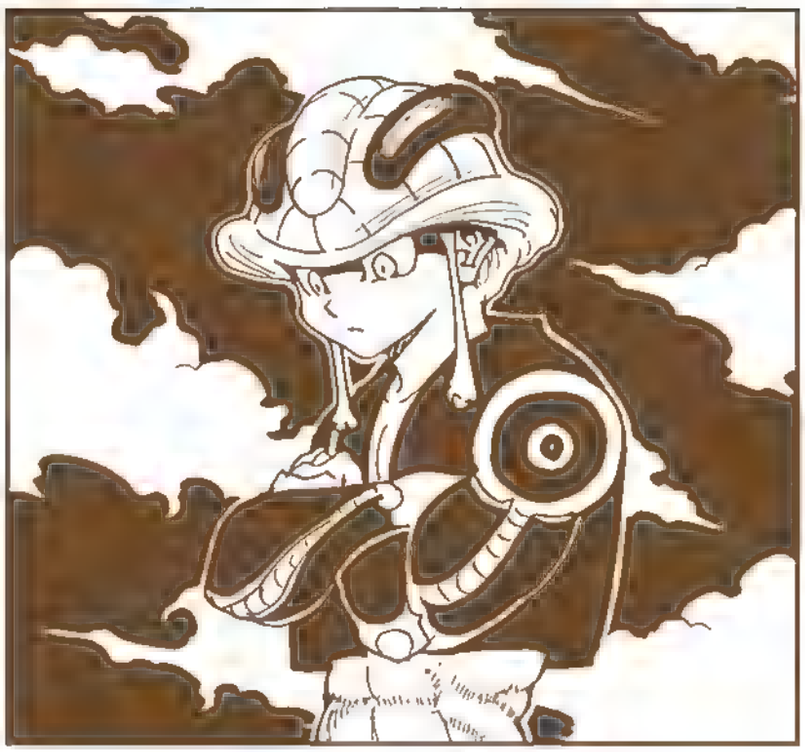
I AM WILLING TO SPARE YOUR LIFE.


IF YOU BACK DOWN NOW...
I SENSE THAT YOU ARE WORTHY, AS WELL.


.....


YOU'RE SAYING... ONLY ME, RIGHT?
SO...

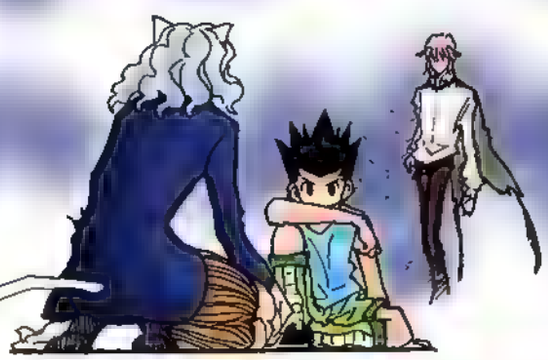

...I CAN'T ACCEPT THAT OFFER.
GIVEN MY POSITION ...



No.288 ◆ ACCOLADE

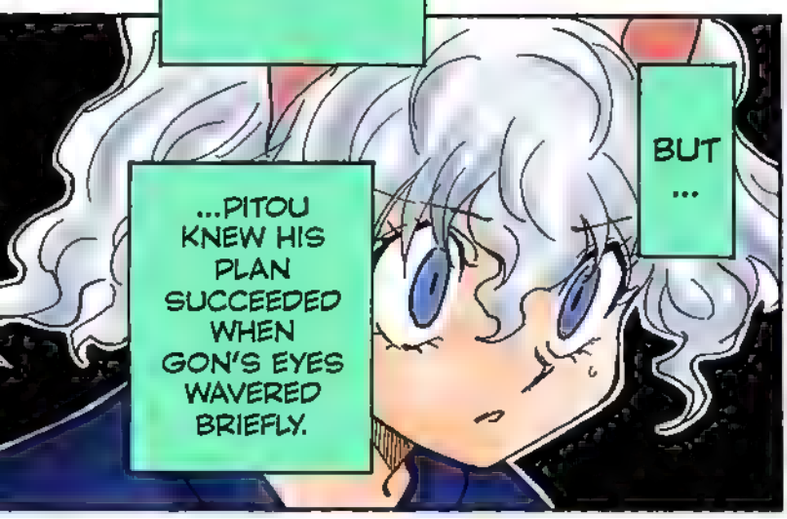
PITOU MADE IT A POINT TO INCLUDE DETAILS THAT GON DID NOT KNOW, TO ENSURE THAT GON'S ***"ATTENTION WOULD BE FOCUSED ON THE EXPLANATION."***

PITOU COMPLIED WITH POUF'S REQUEST, TELLING HIM WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE ATTACK. IN OTHER WORDS, EVERYTHING SINCE THEY'D BEEN SEPARATED.



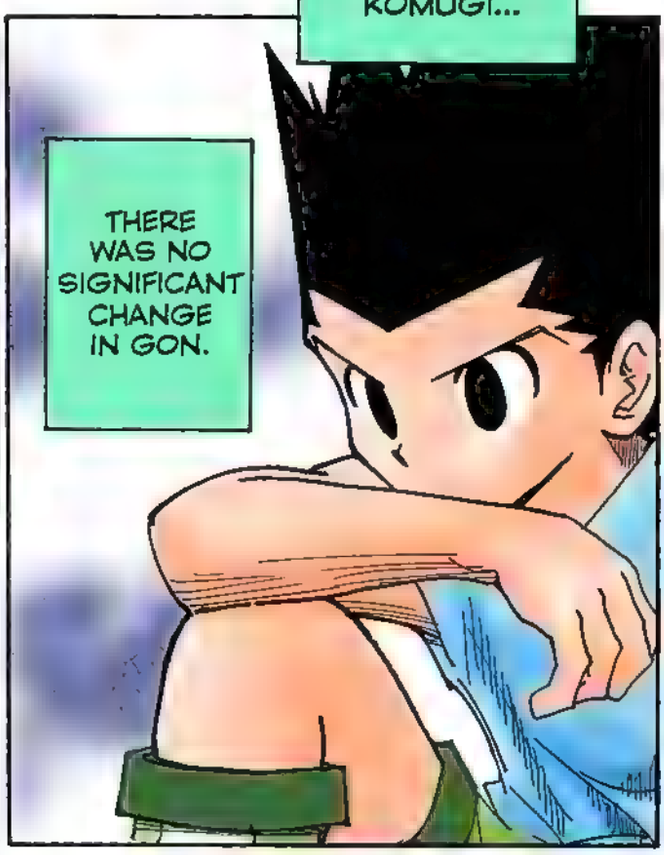
...BECAUSE PITOU DID NOT KNOW HOW TO DESCRIBE THE EVENTS ACCURATELY.

PITOU DELIBERATELY DID NOT MENTION HOW THE KING HAD HELD KOMUGI...

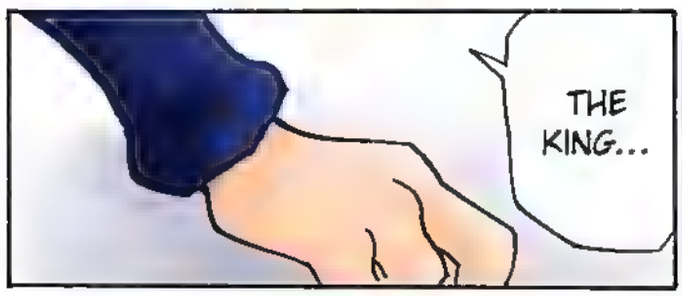


...PITOU KNEW HIS PLAN SUCCEEDED WHEN GON'S EYES WAVERED BRIEFLY.

BUT ...



THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN GON.



THE KING...

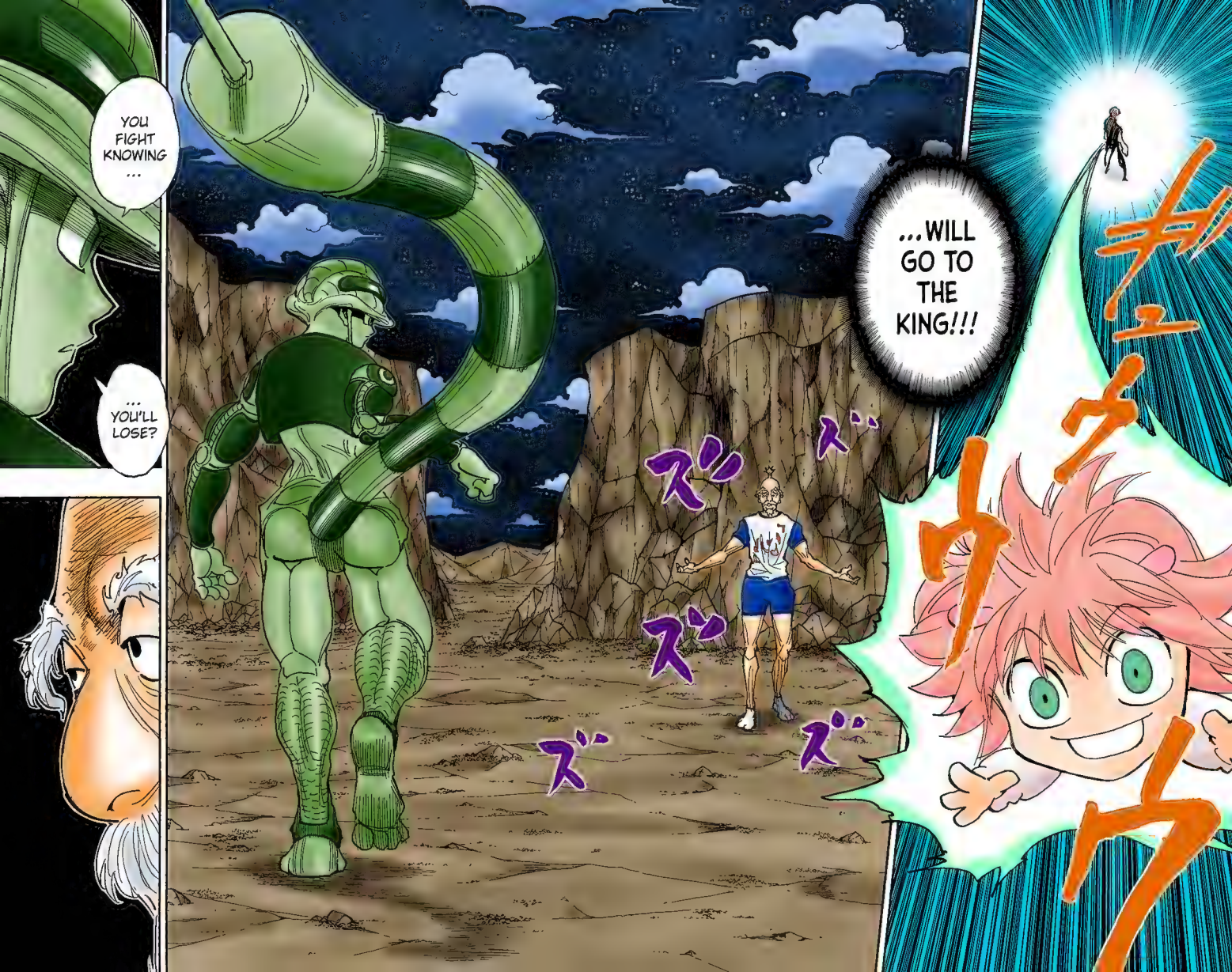
...LEFT WITH THE ENEMY OF HIS OWN VOLITION, BY THAT DOORWAY.

PITOU.

I UNDER-STAND.

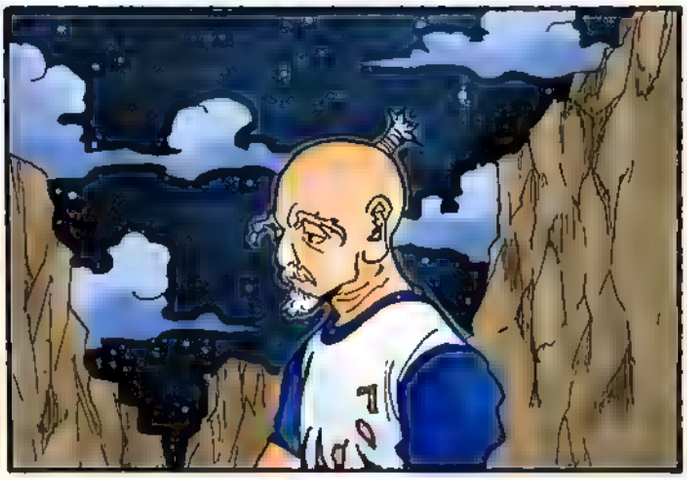
A FINE PLAY...

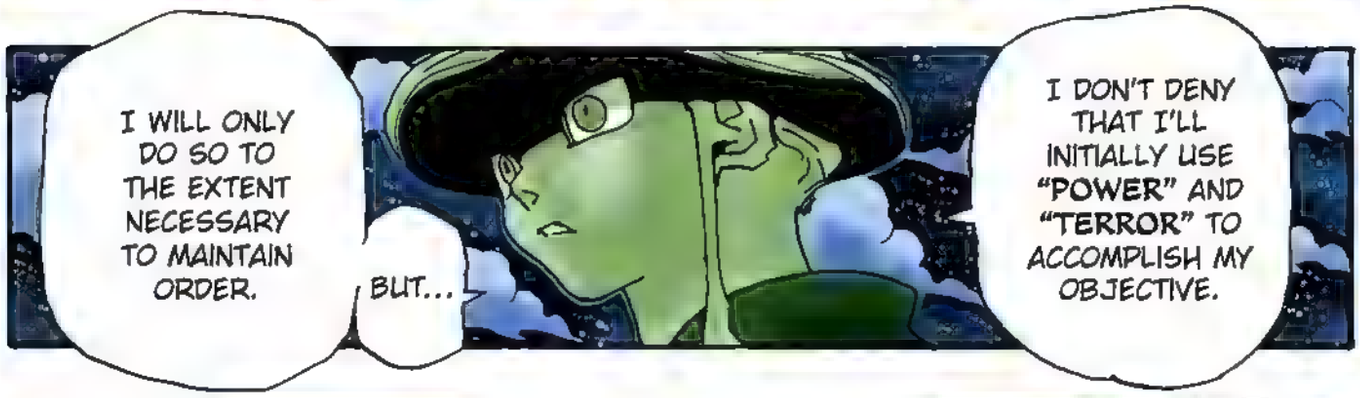
THEN WE SHALL WAIT...
...FOR THE KING'S RETURN HERE.
THE 6/7...
TO MAINTAIN ONLY MY OUTWARD APPEARANCE, I ONLY NEED 1/7 OF MY FLYING SEGMENTS!!

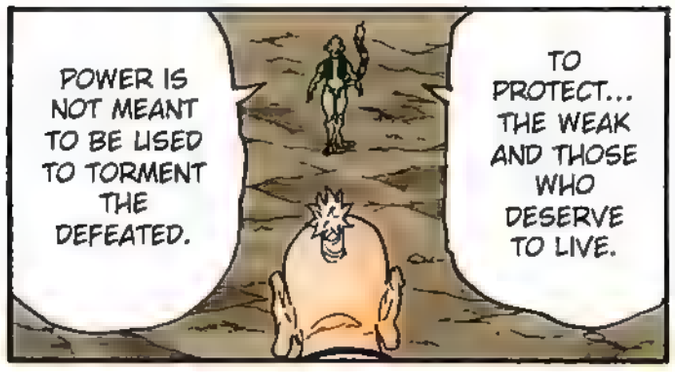

YOU FIGHT KNOWING ...
... YOU'LL LOSE?
...WILL GO TO THE KING!!!
ズン ズ
ズン
ズ ズ

ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BORDER, CHILDREN MAY STARVE TO DEATH. WHILE ON THE LEFT, SCUM WHO DO NOTHING HAVE EVERYTHING THEY NEED.
PURE MADNESS.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND... ARE YOU FIGHTING FOR HUMANITY?
IF SO, THEN KNOW THAT MY ACTIONS ARE IN FACT, FOR THEIR "BENEFIT."
FOR EXAMPLE, IN HUMAN SOCIETY, LANDS ARE DIVIDED BY NATIONAL BORDERS MUCH LIKE TERRITORIAL MARKING.
.....
AND CREATE...
I'LL DESTROY THAT.
...THE CONCEPT OF INEQUALITY WILL BE FORGOTTEN !!
...A WORLD SO EQUAL THAT...

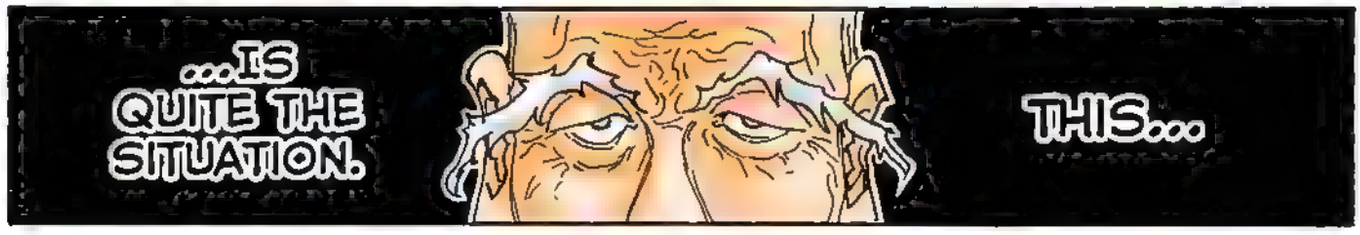
HMM ...




I WILL ONLY DO SO TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN ORDER.
BUT...
I DON'T DENY THAT I'LL INITIALLY USE "POWER" AND "TERROR" TO ACCOMPLISH MY OBJECTIVE.


POWER IS NOT MEANT TO BE USED TO TORMENT THE DEFEATED.
TO PROTECT... THE WEAK AND THOSE WHO DESERVE TO LIVE.

...WHAT "POWER" IS MEANT TO BE USED FOR.
I LEARNED ...


...IS QUITE THE SITUATION.
THIS...

...WAVERING.
...FIGHT YOU.
I WILL NOT...
HE'S...

I AGREED TO LEAVE THE PALACE...

...SO WE COULD HAVE A FREE, OPEN DISCUSSION.

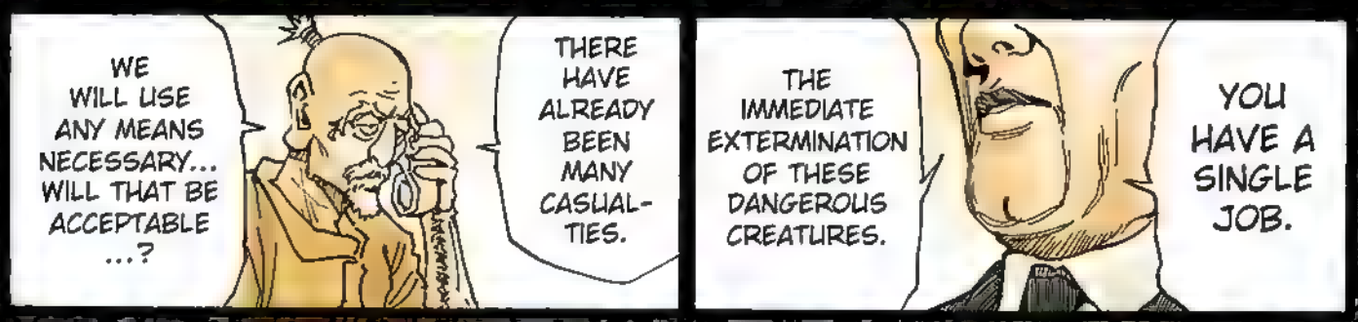
WAVERING BETWEEN ANT AND HUMAN!!!

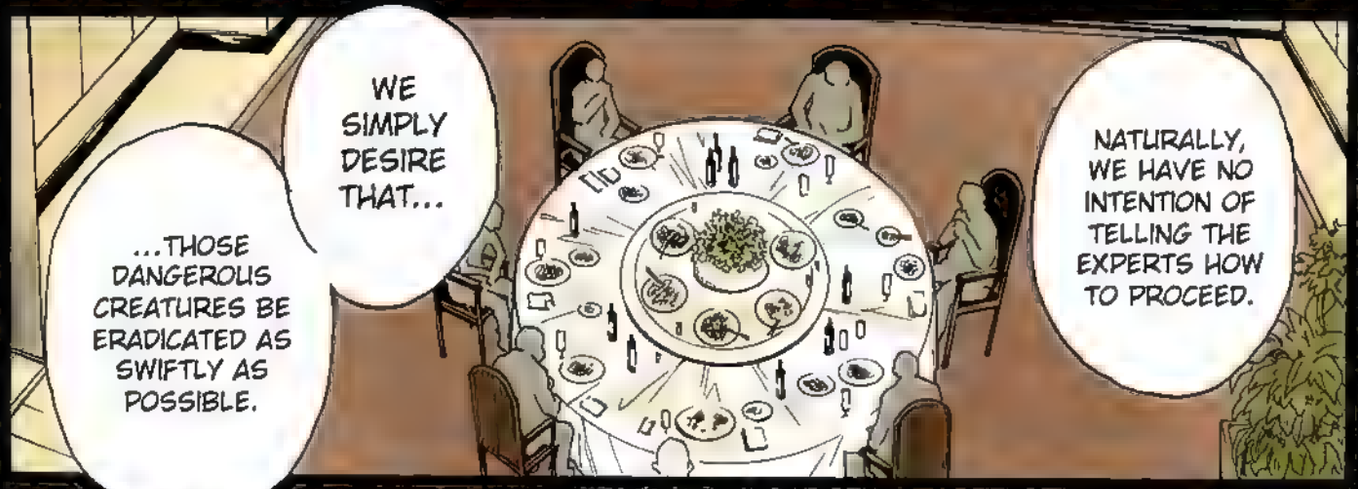
COME CLOSER.

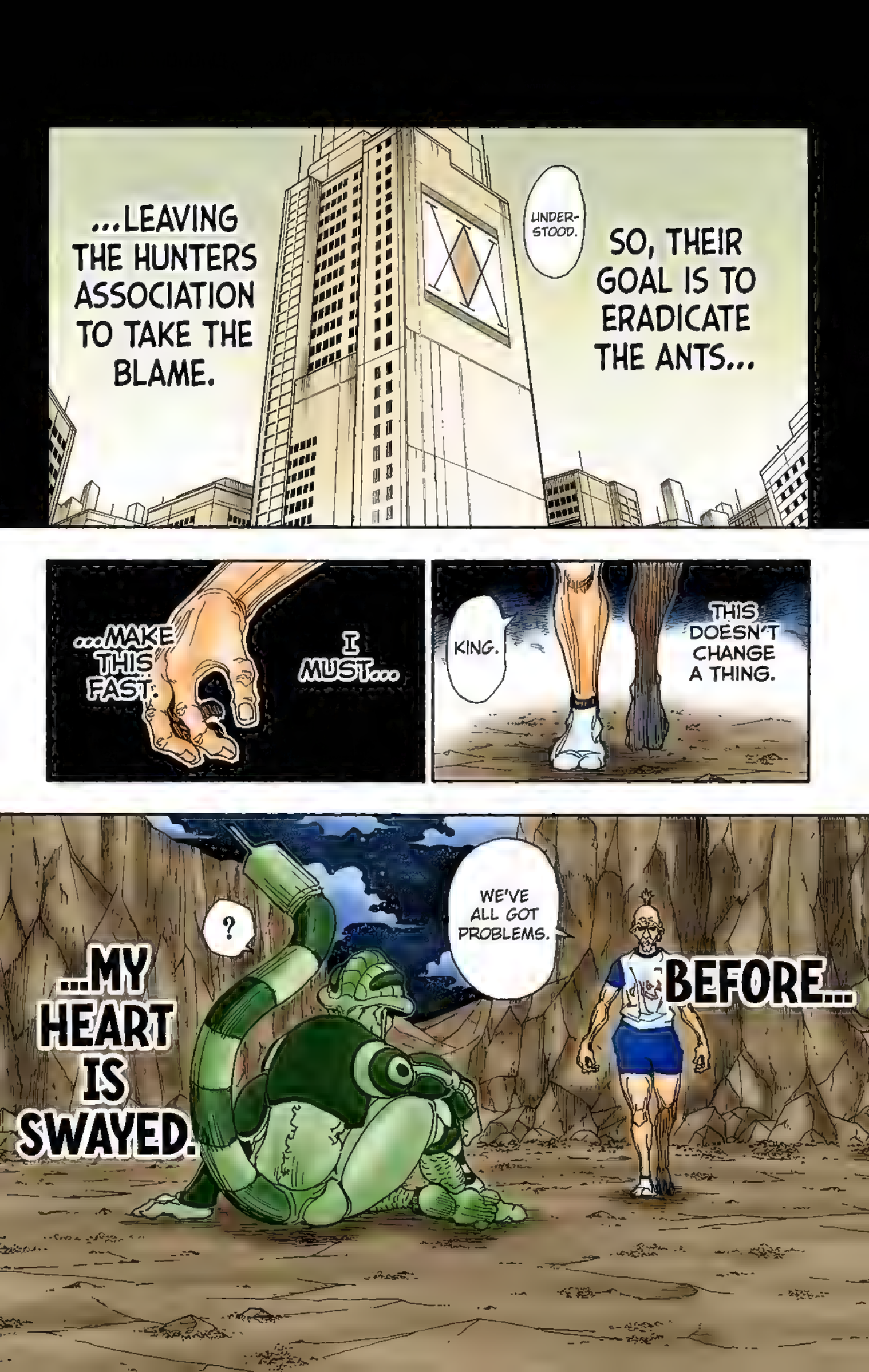
...THOSE TWO SIDES ARE INCOM-PATIBLE.

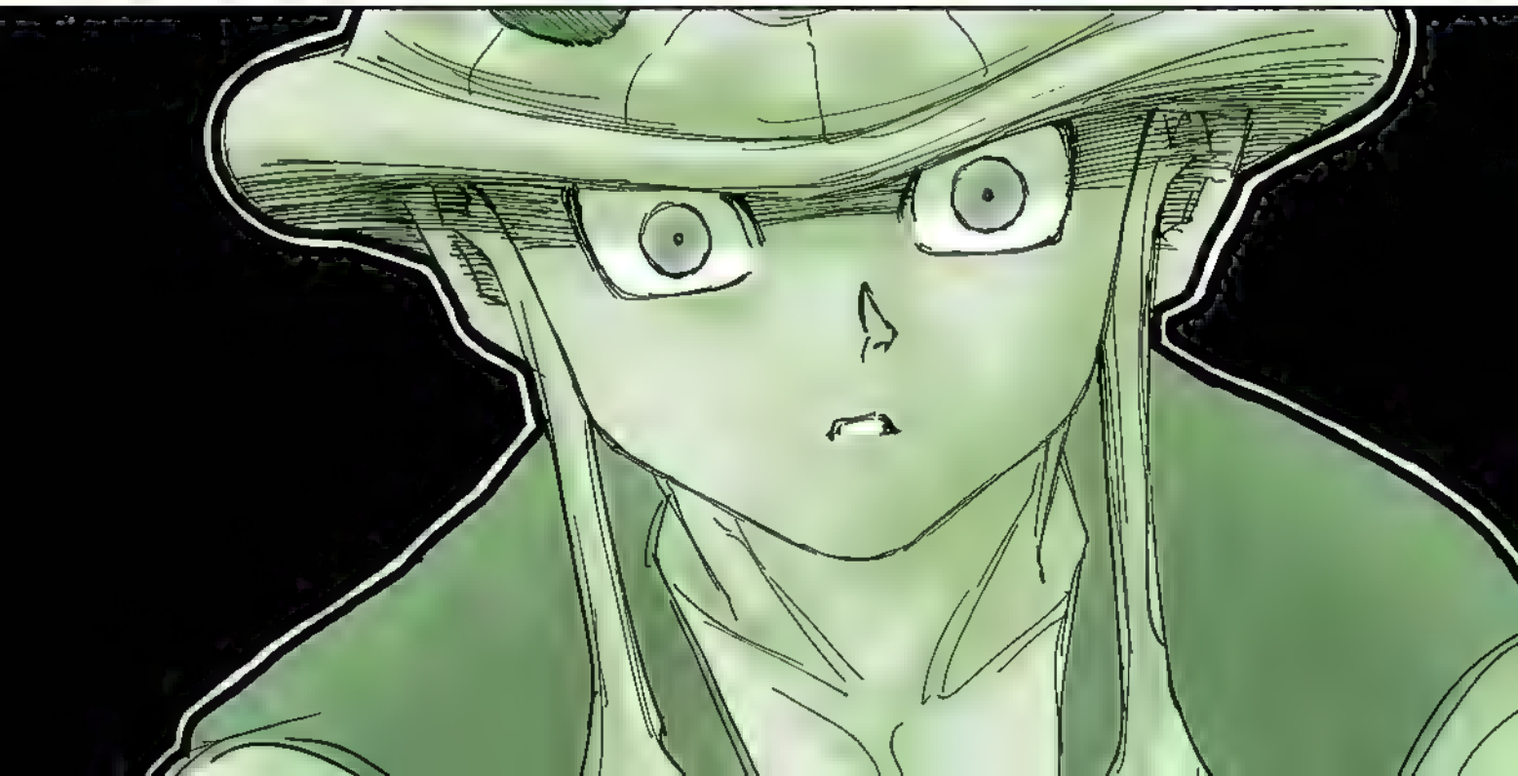
AND HE HASN'T REALIZED THAT...

...IS DOMINANT YET.
AND EITHER ONE...
...REGARDLESS OF WHICH SIDE HE FALLS TO, THE OUTCOME WON'T CHANGE.
BUT...
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU.


WE WILL USE ANY MEANS NECESSARY... WILL THAT BE ACCEPTABLE ...?
THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN MANY CASUALTIES.
THE IMMEDIATE EXTERMINATION OF THESE DANGEROUS CREATURES.
YOU HAVE A SINGLE JOB.

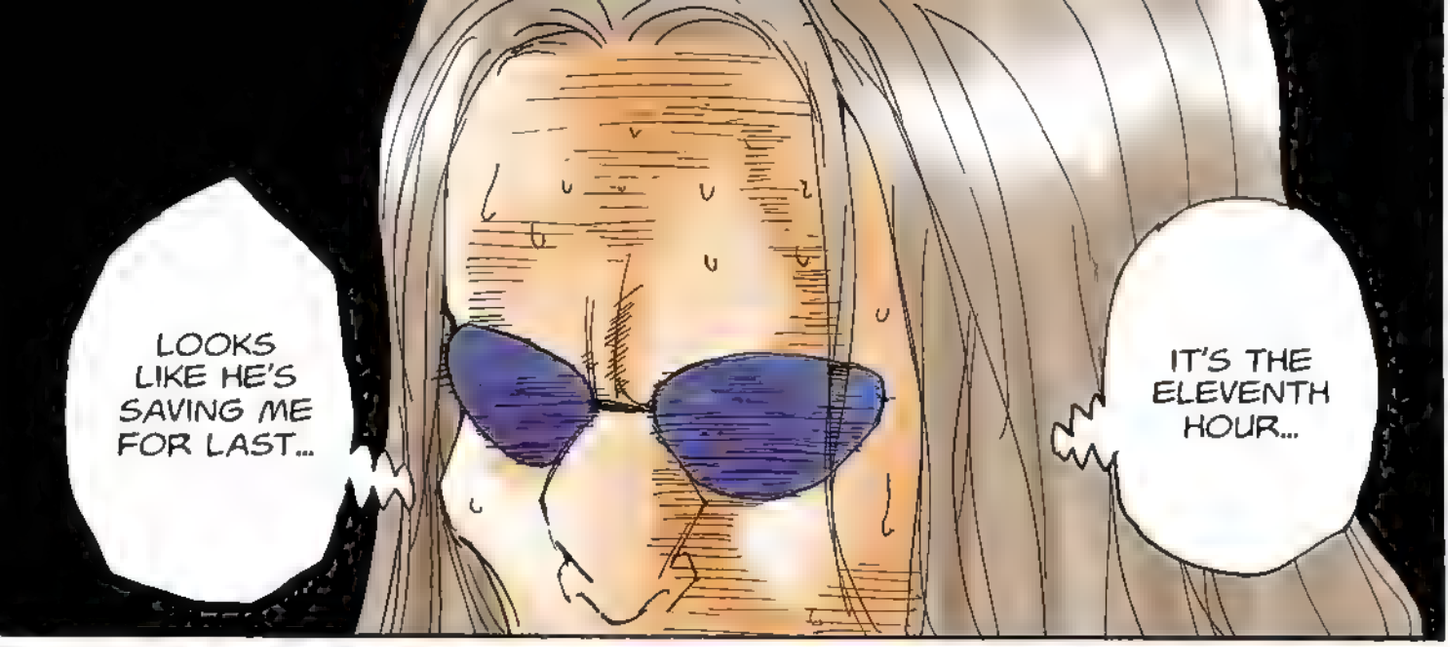

...THOSE DANGEROUS CREATURES BE ERADICATED AS SWIFTLY AS POSSIBLE.
WE SIMPLY DESIRE THAT...
NATURALLY, WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF TELLING THE EXPERTS HOW TO PROCEED.

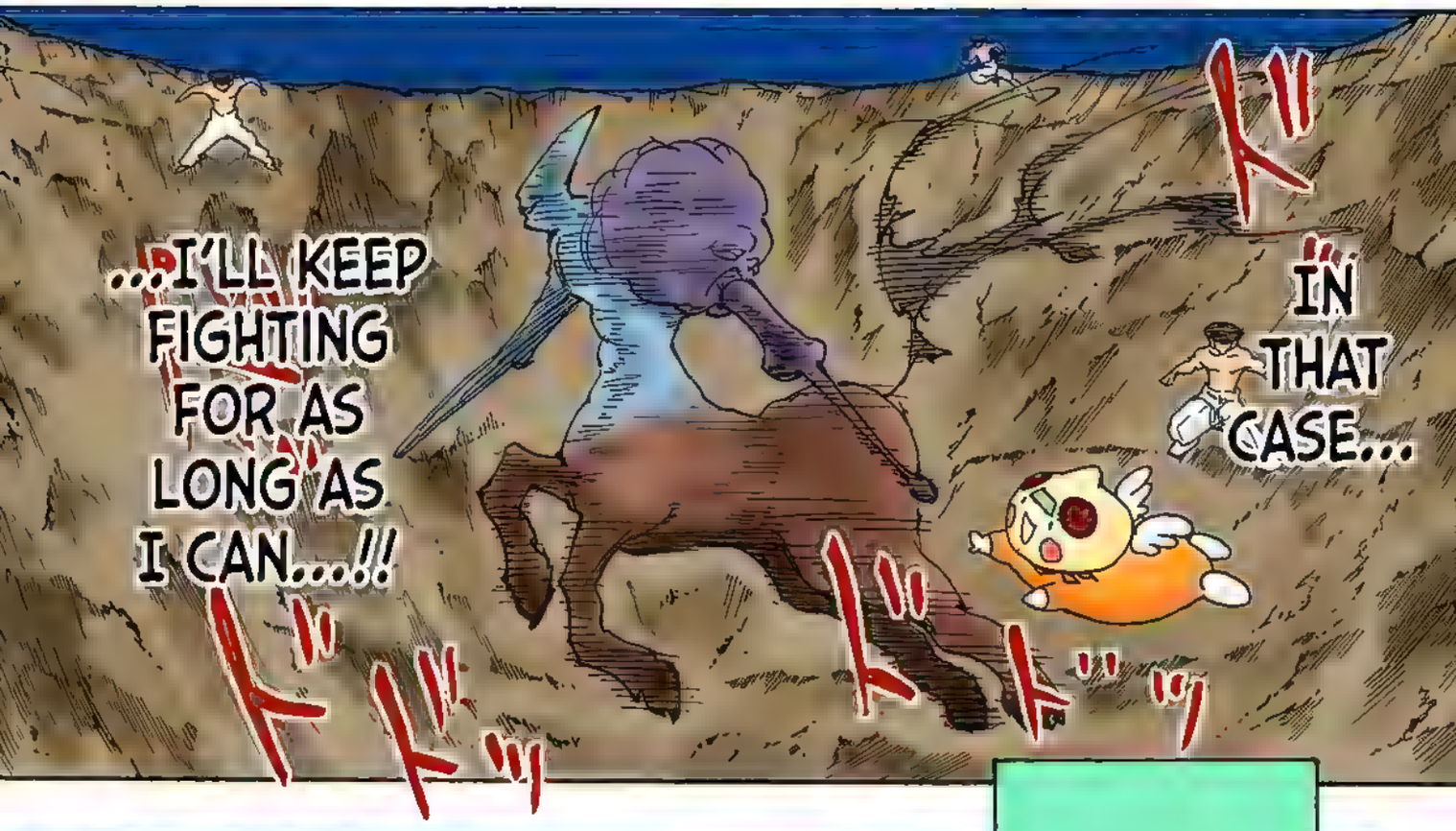

...LEAVING THE HUNTERS ASSOCIATION TO TAKE THE BLAME.
UNDER-STOOD.
SO, THEIR GOAL IS TO ERADICATE THE ANTS...
...MAKE THIS FAST.
I MUST...
KING.
THIS DOESN'T CHANGE A THING.
?
WE'VE ALL GOT PROBLEMS.
...MY HEART IS SWAYED.
BEFORE...



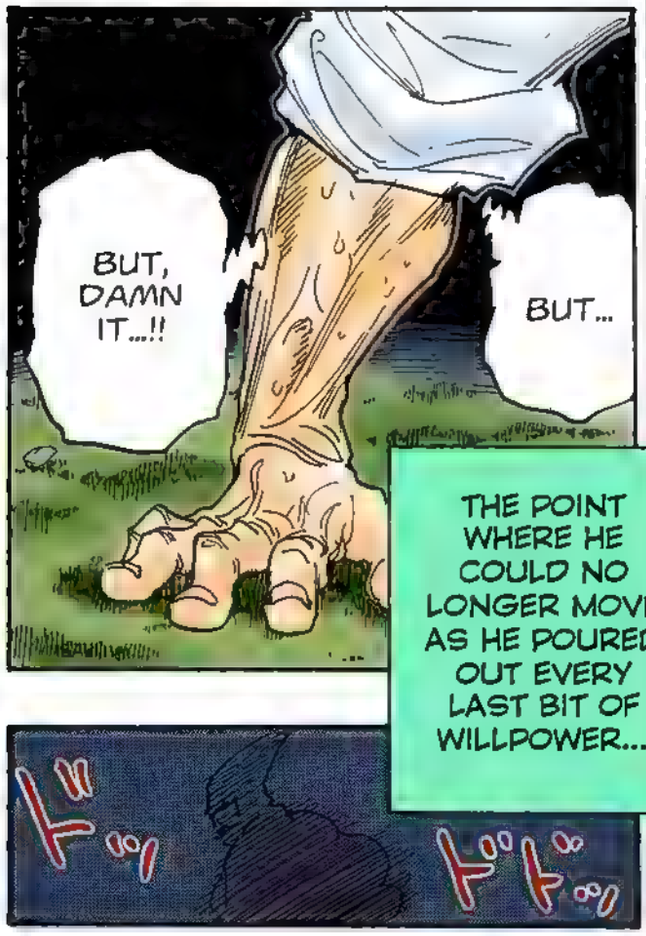
FIRST HAND
100-TYPE GUANYIN BODHI-SATTVA

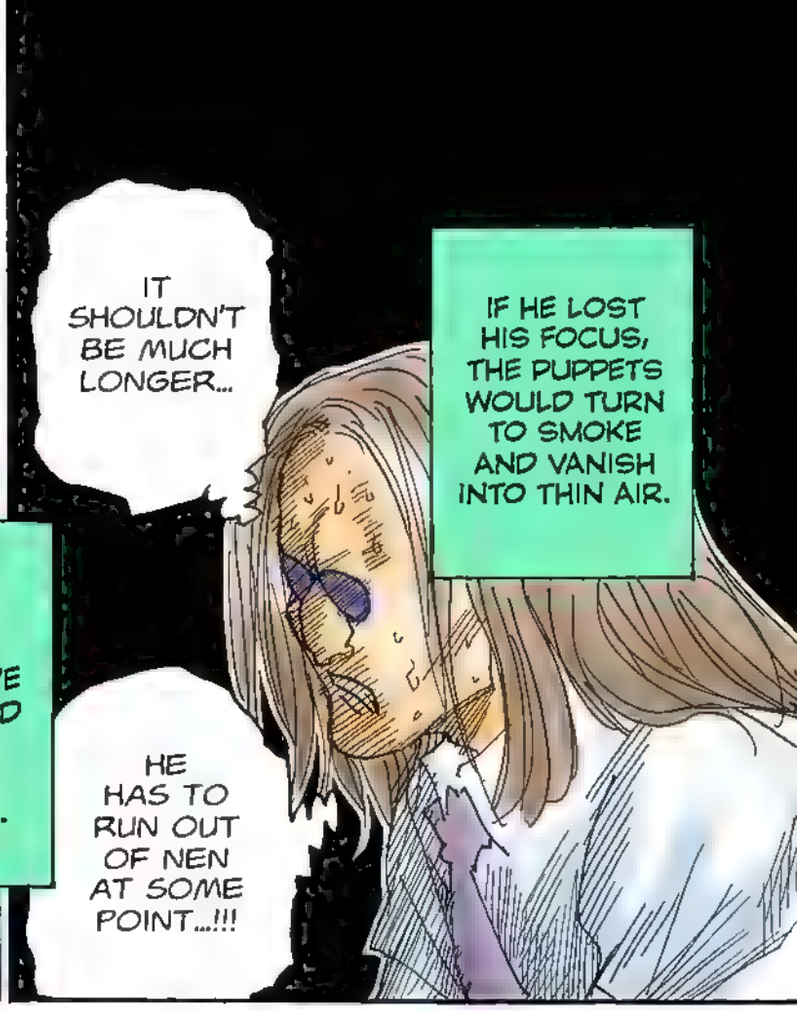
HYAA
HUF
HUF
HUF
ONLY 10 LEFT ...!!

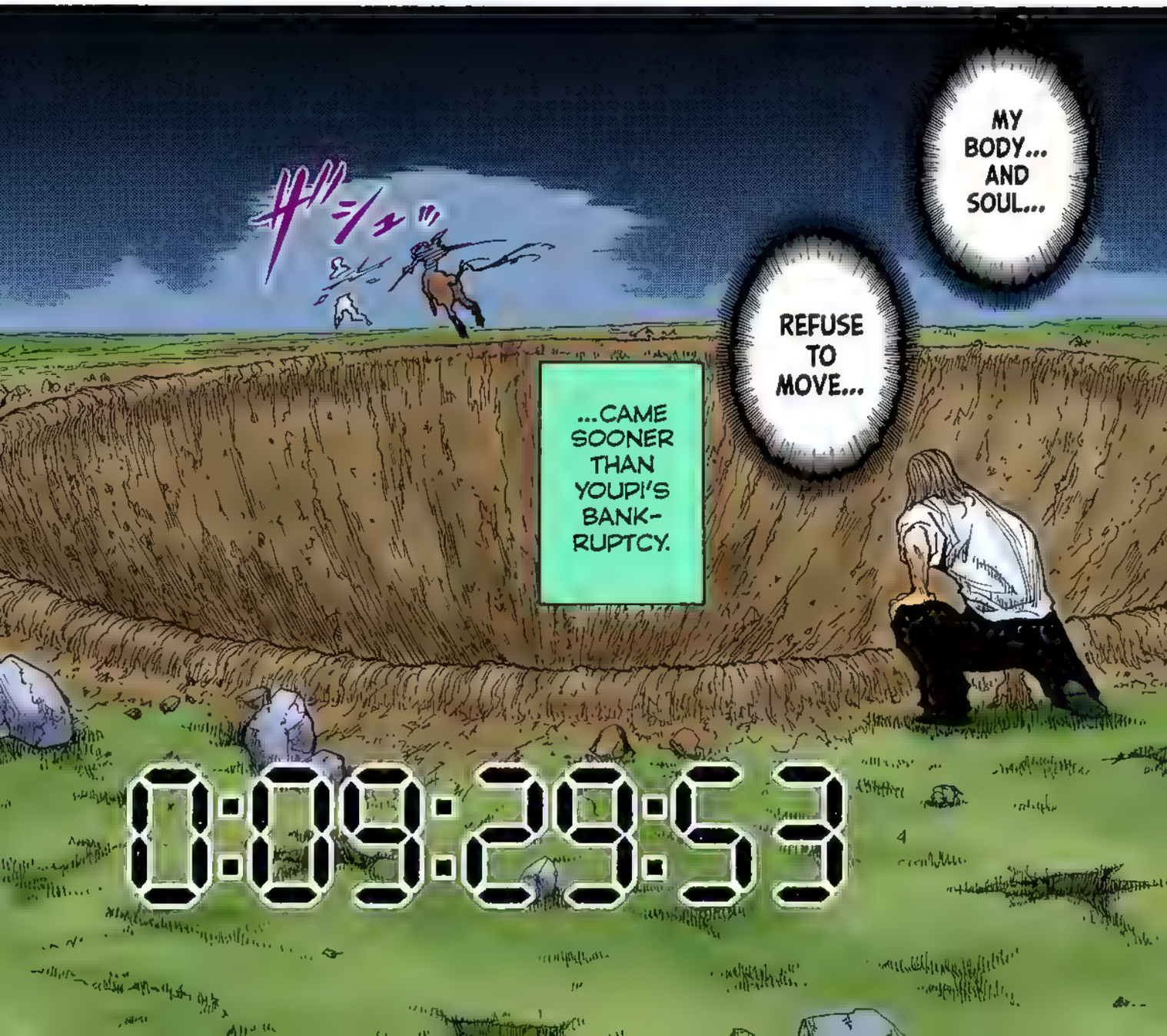

LOOKS LIKE HE'S SAVING ME FOR LAST...
IT'S THE ELEVENTH HOUR...

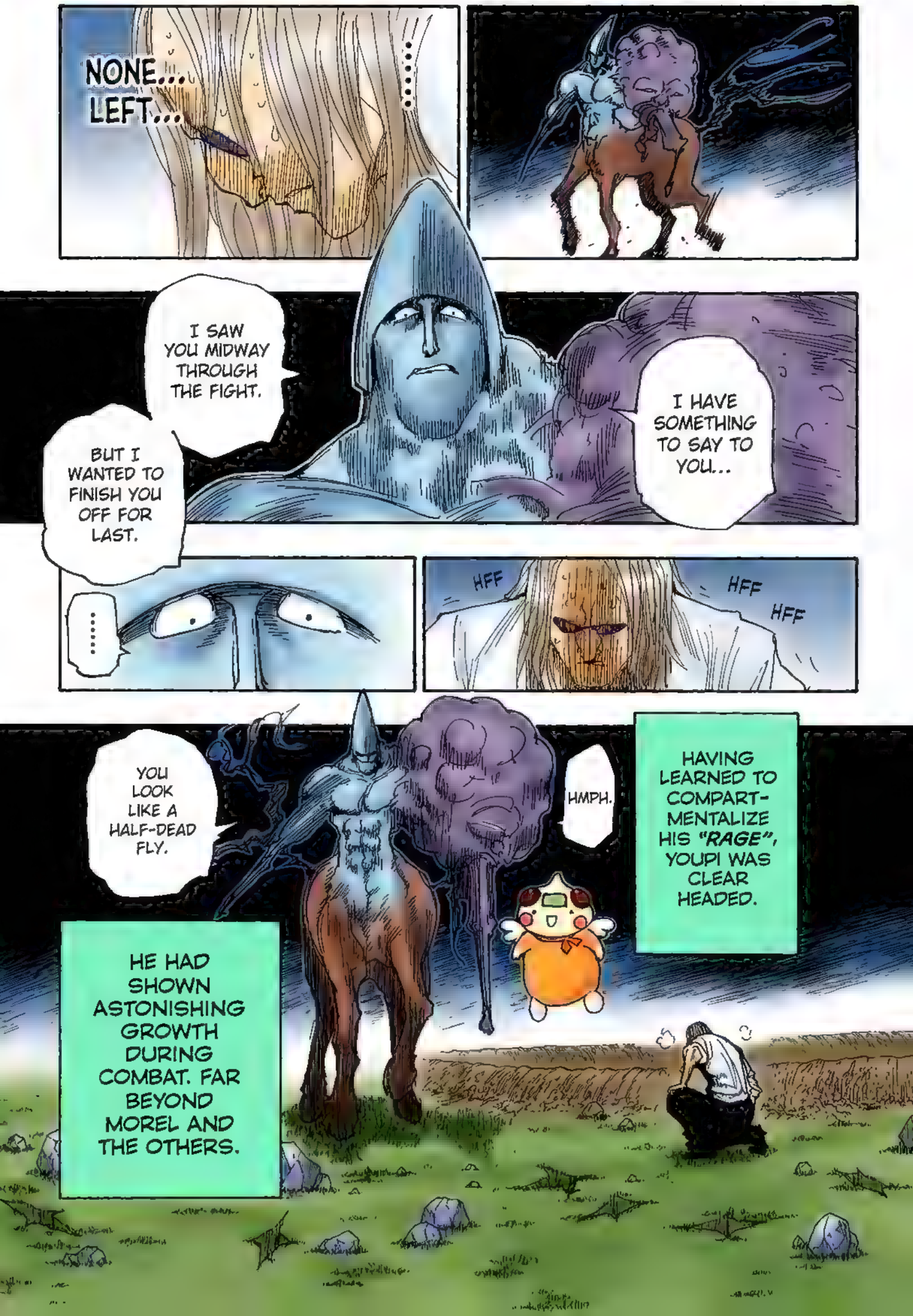

...I'LL KEEP FIGHTING FOR AS LONG AS I CAN...!!
IN THAT CASE...

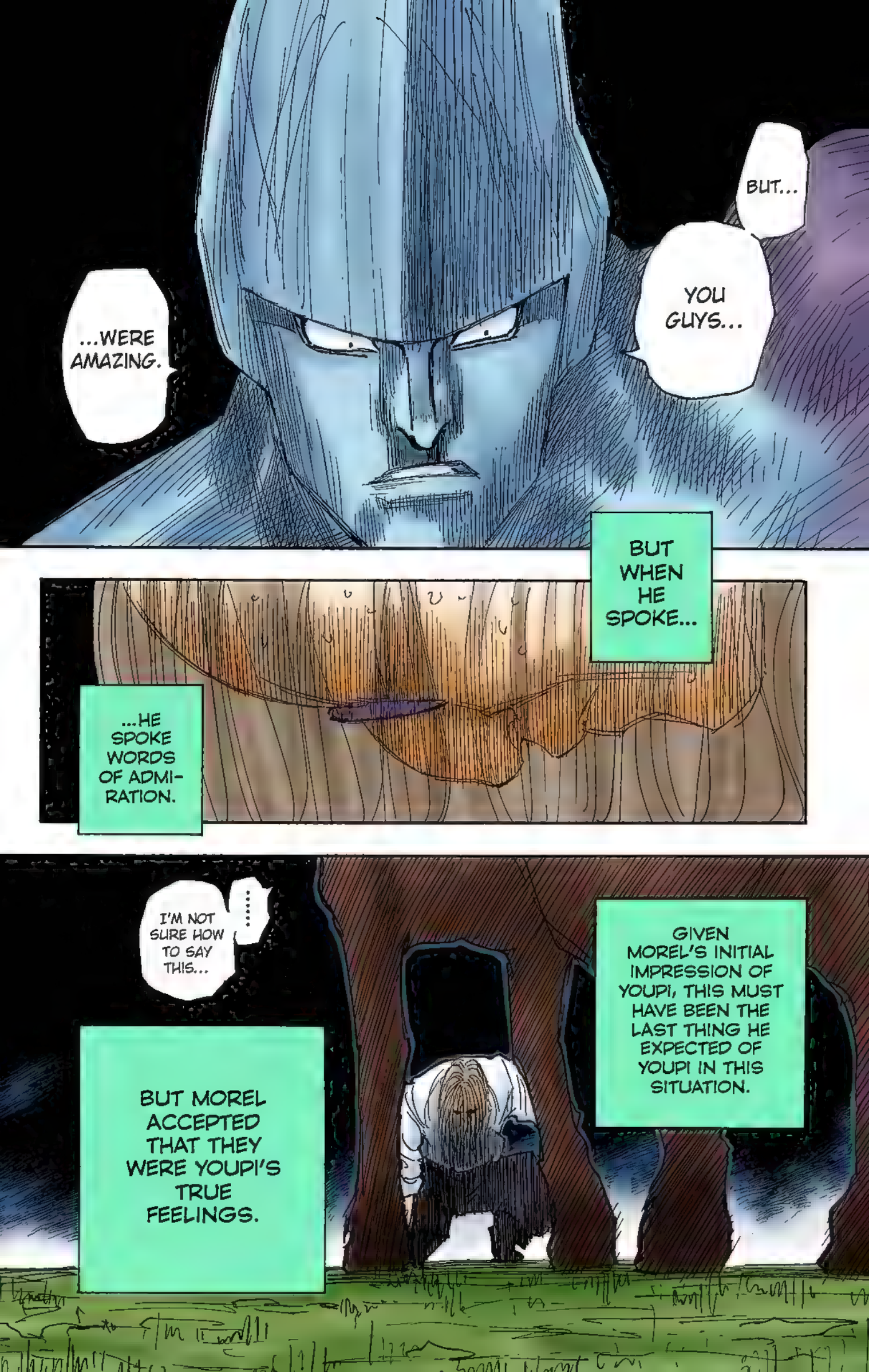
MOREL HAD DEPLOYED ALL OF HIS PUPPETS WITHIN YOUPI'S SIGHT TO KEEP BETTER TRACK OF HIM.
BUT ALSO BECAUSE HE WAS SO WORN OUT HE COULD NO LONGER DISPERSE THEM OVER A WIDER AREA.

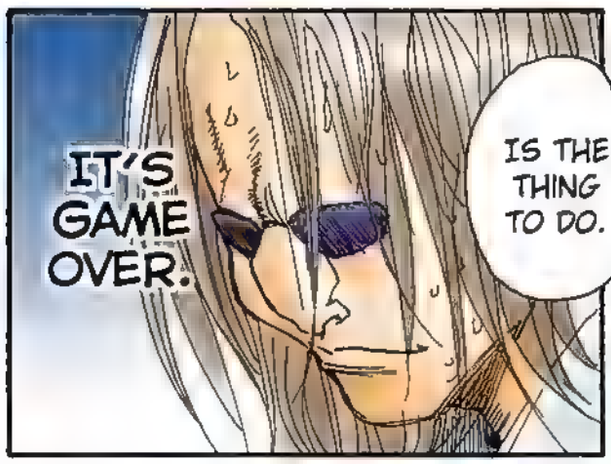

BUT, DAMN IT...!!
BUT...
THE POINT WHERE HE COULD NO LONGER MOVE AS HE POURED OUT EVERY LAST BIT OF WILLPOWER...


IT SHOULDN'T BE MUCH LONGER...
IF HE LOST HIS FOCUS, THE PUPPETS WOULD TURN TO SMOKE AND VANISH INTO THIN AIR.
HE HAS TO RUN OUT OF NEN AT SOME POINT...!!!

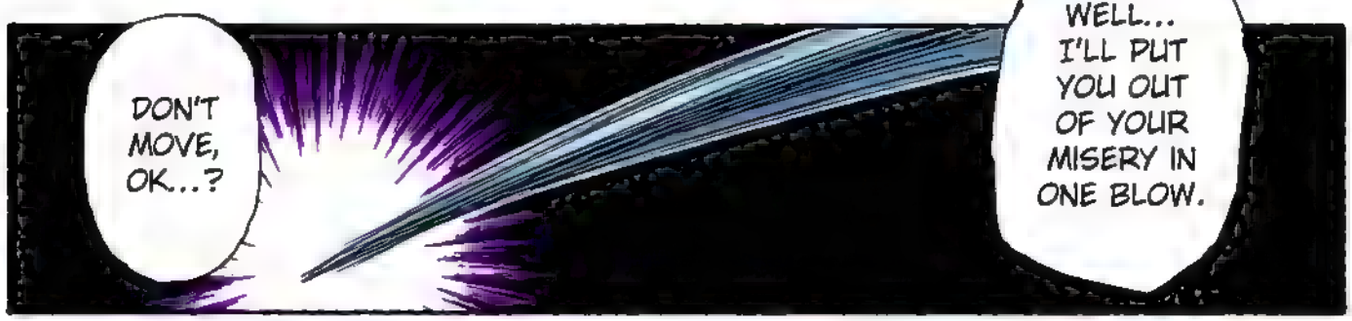

MY BODY... AND SOUL...
REFUSE TO MOVE...
...CAME SOONER THAN YOUPI'S BANK-RUPTCY.
0:09:29:53

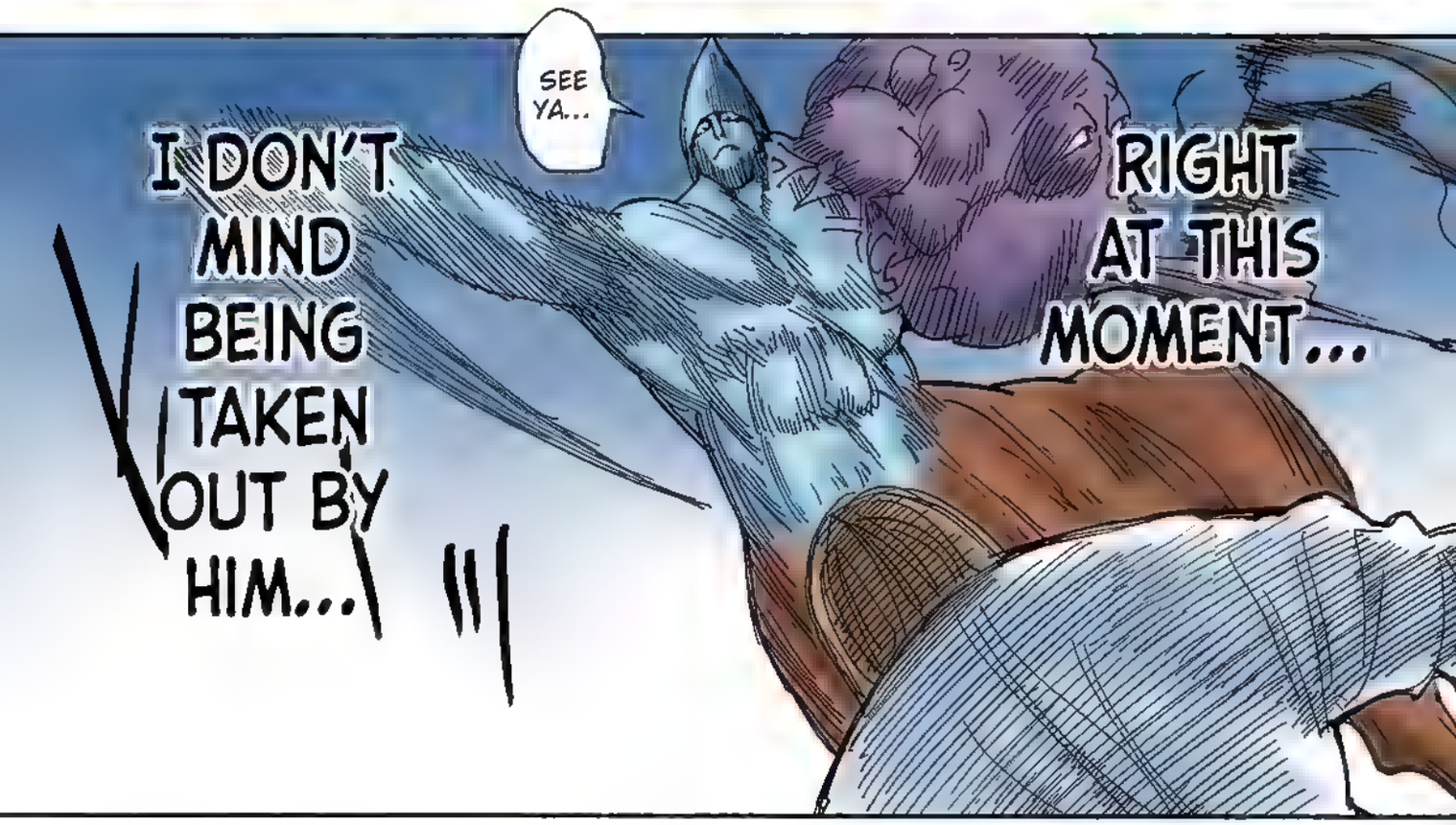

NONE... LEFT...
I SAW YOU MIDWAY THROUGH THE FIGHT.
BUT I WANTED TO FINISH YOU OFF FOR LAST.
I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO YOU...
HFF
HFF
HFF
YOU LOOK LIKE A HALF-DEAD FLY.
HMPH.
HAVING LEARNED TO COMPART-MENTALIZE HIS "RAGE", YOUPI WAS CLEAR HEADED.
HE HAD SHOWN ASTONISHING GROWTH DURING COMBAT. FAR BEYOND MOREL AND THE OTHERS.


BUT...
YOU GUYS...
...WERE AMAZING.
BUT WHEN HE SPOKE...
...HE SPOKE WORDS OF ADMIRATION.
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO SAY THIS...
.....
GIVEN MOREL'S INITIAL IMPRESSION OF YOUPI, THIS MUST HAVE BEEN THE LAST THING HE EXPECTED OF YOUPI IN THIS SITUATION.
BUT MOREL ACCEPTED THAT THEY WERE YOUPI'S TRUE FEELINGS.

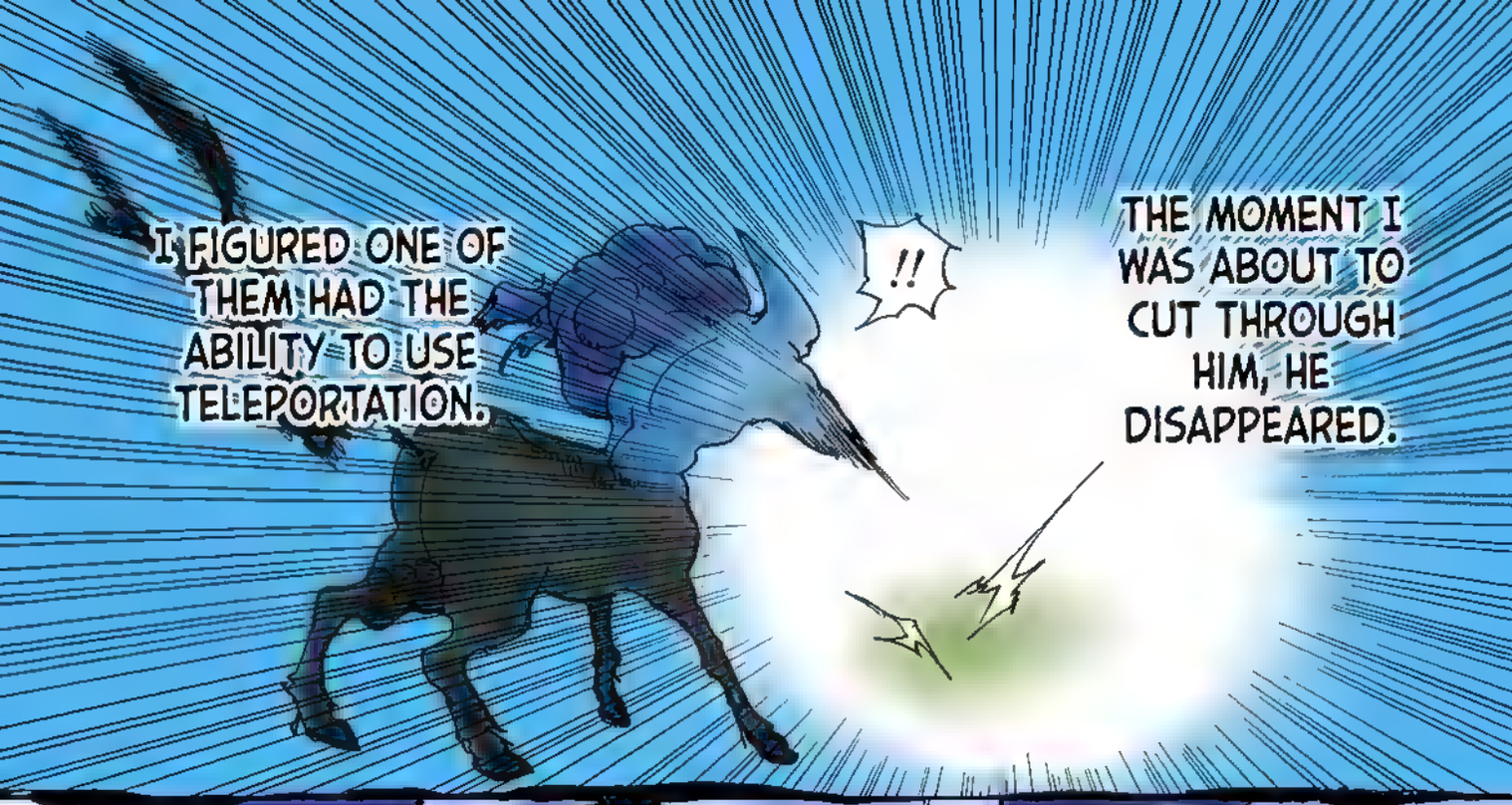

IT'S GAME OVER.
IS THE THING TO DO.

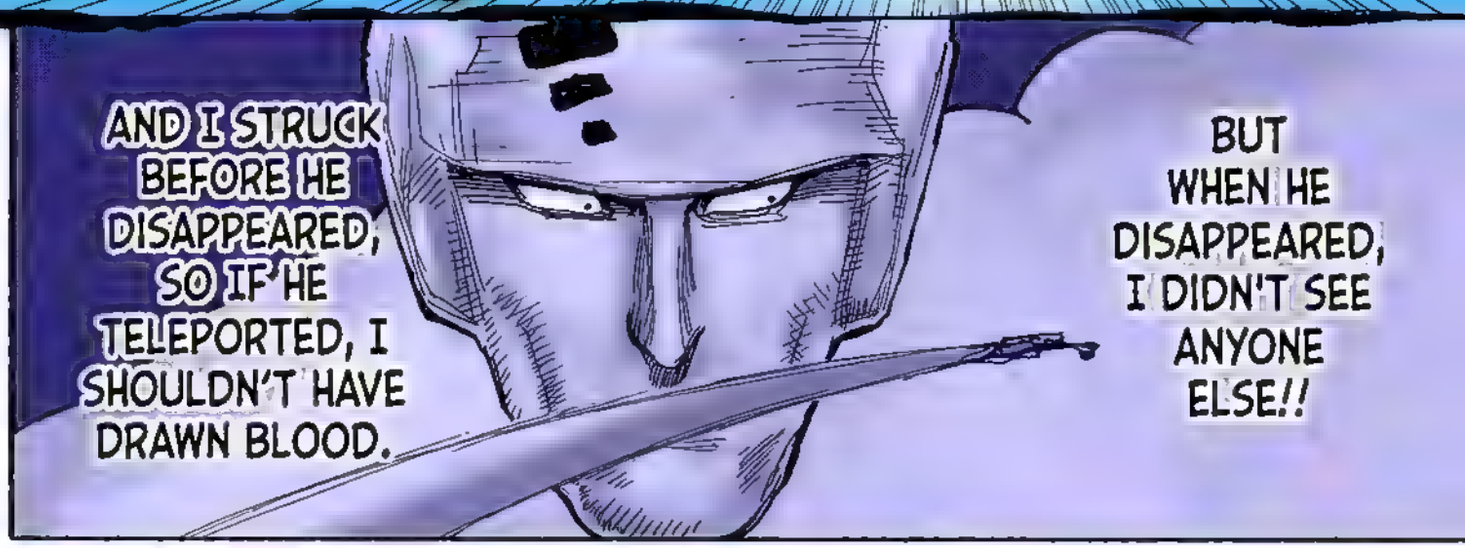
...I HAVE TO KILL YOU THE RIGHT WAY.
BUT BECAUSE YOU WERE SO AMAZING...

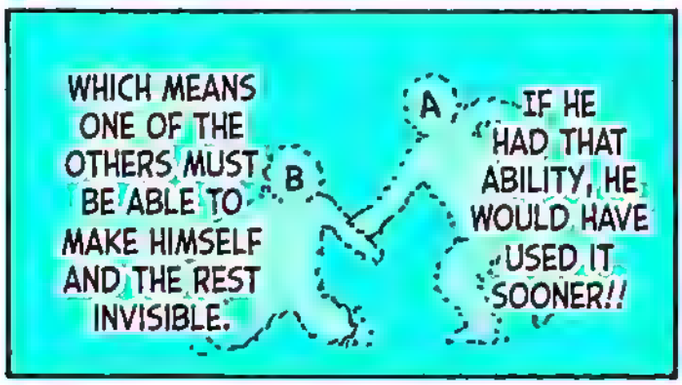

DON'T MOVE, OK...?
WELL... I'LL PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY IN ONE BLOW.

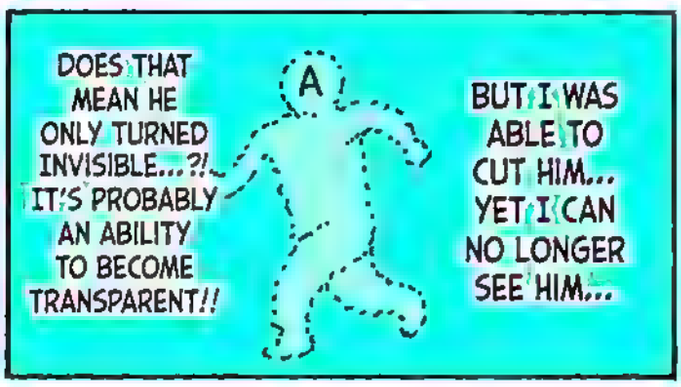

SEE YA...
I DON'T MIND BEING TAKEN OUT BY HIM...
RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT...

.....
HE DISAPPEARED ...!!
No.289 ◆ TERMS
DID HE TELE-PORT...?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THERE'S BLOOD ...!!
ス...


I FIGURED ONE OF THEM HAD THE ABILITY TO USE TELEPORTATION.
!!
THE MOMENT I WAS ABOUT TO CUT THROUGH HIM, HE DISAPPEARED.

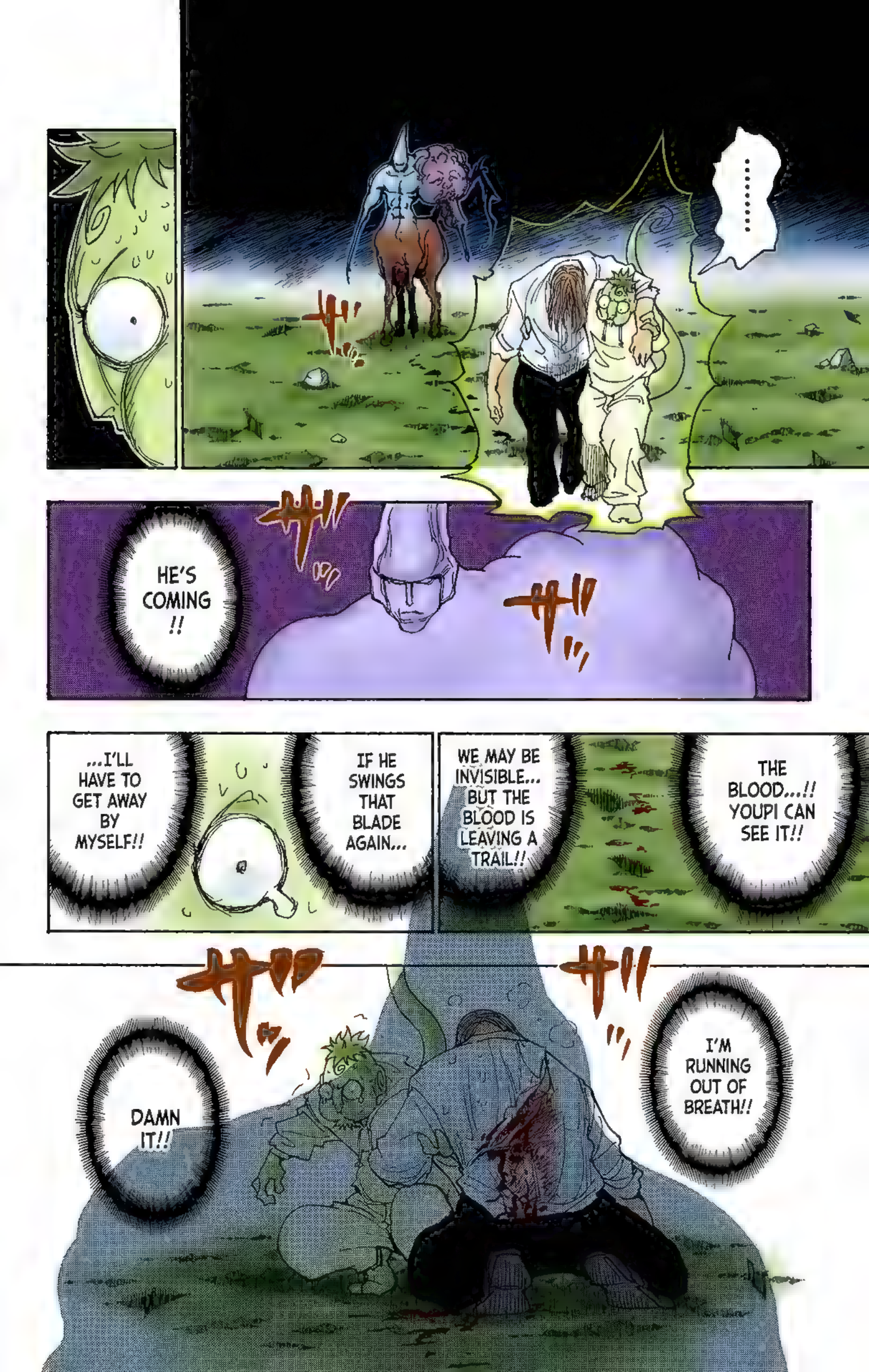

AND I STRUCK BEFORE HE DISAPPEARED, SO IF HE TELEPORTED, I SHOULDN'T HAVE DRAWN BLOOD.
BUT WHEN HE DISAPPEARED, I DIDN'T SEE ANYONE ELSE!!


WHICH MEANS ONE OF THE OTHERS MUST BE ABLE TO MAKE HIMSELF AND THE REST INVISIBLE.
B
A
IF HE HAD THAT ABILITY, HE WOULD HAVE USED IT SOONER!!


DOES THAT MEAN HE ONLY TURNED INVISIBLE...?! IT'S PROBABLY AN ABILITY TO BECOME TRANSPARENT!!
A
BUT I WAS ABLE TO CUT HIM... YET I CAN NO LONGER SEE HIM...

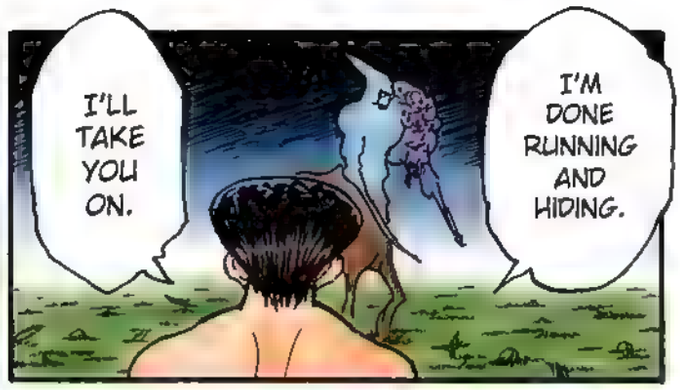
BUT HE DIDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME!! THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED!!
AND RIGHT BEFORE I STABBED HIM, HE TRIED TO SAVE THE GUY WITH THE SUNGLASSES.

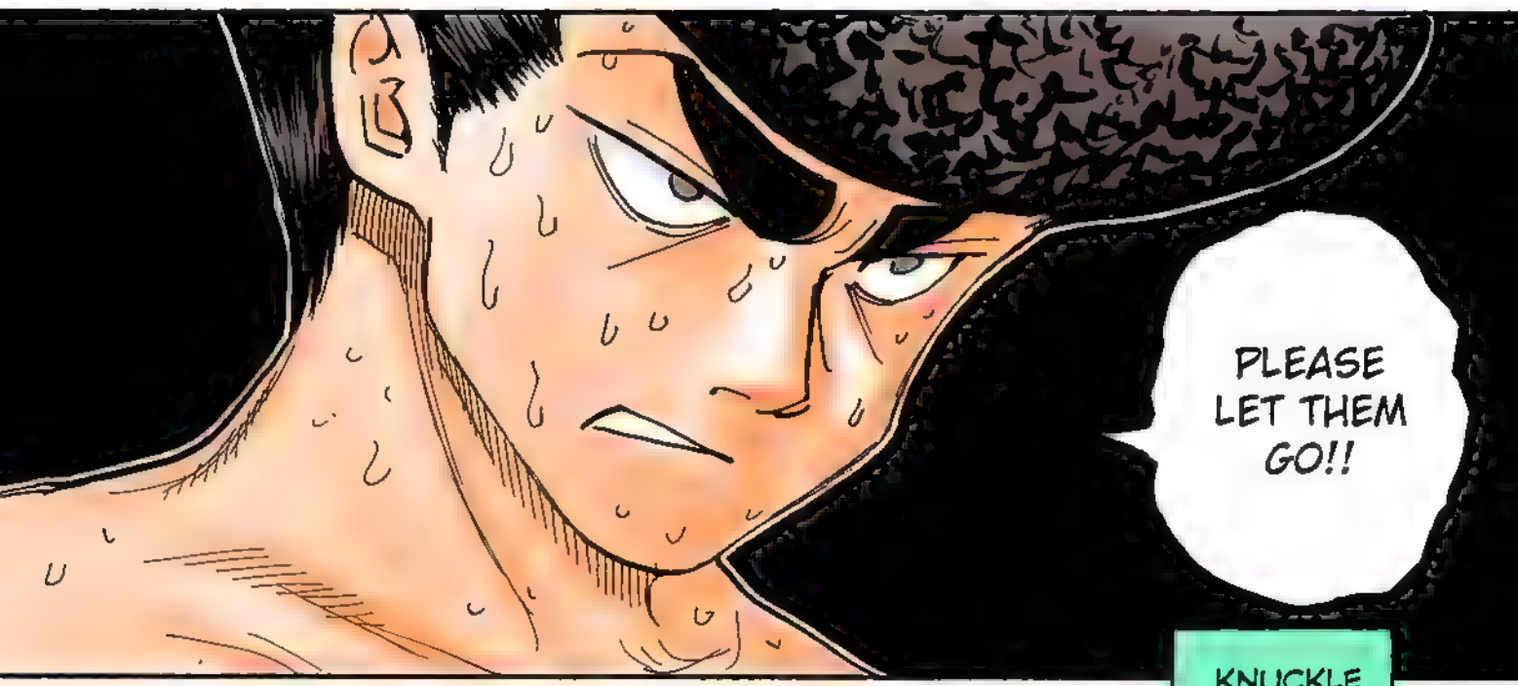
...WAS DEEP ...!!
THE WOUND...

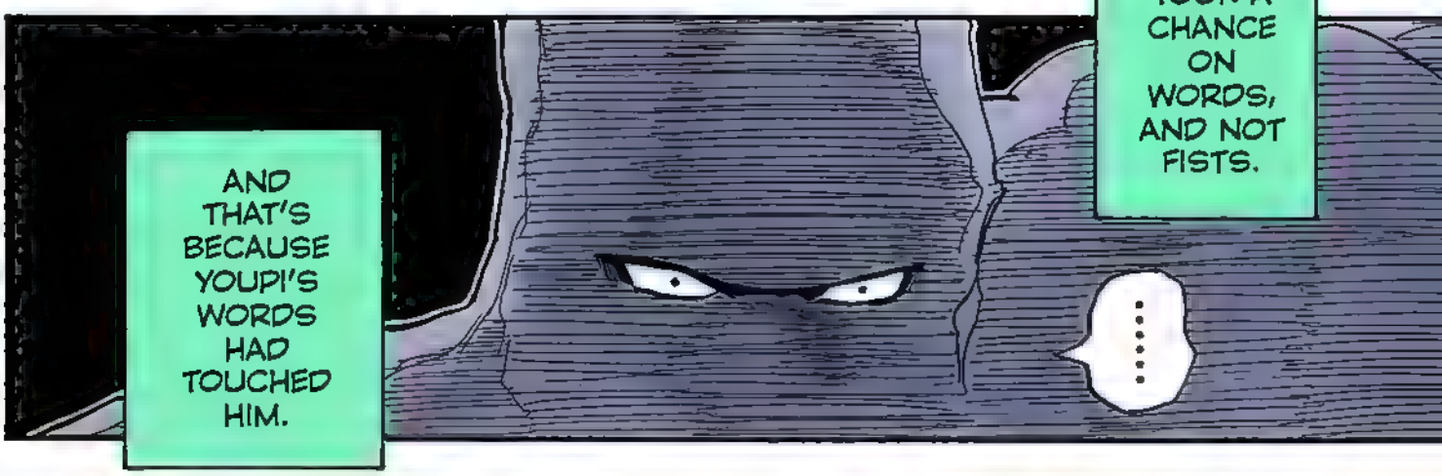

.....
HE'S COMING !!
...I'LL HAVE TO GET AWAY BY MYSELF!!
IF HE SWINGS THAT BLADE AGAIN...
WE MAY BE INVISIBLE... BUT THE BLOOD IS LEAVING A TRAIL!!
THE BLOOD...!! YOUPI CAN SEE IT!!
DAMN IT!!
I'M RUNNING OUT OF BREATH!!

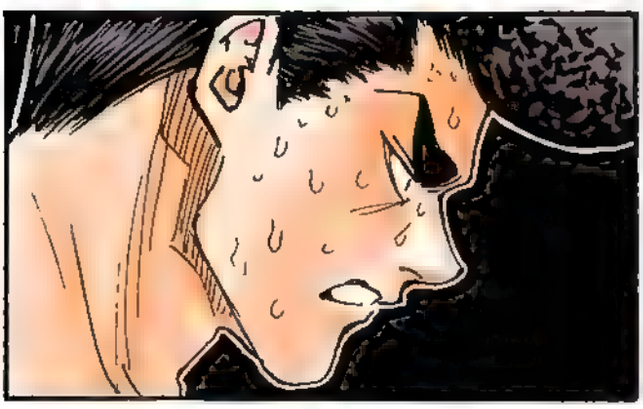
!?
WHY DID YOU REVEAL YOURSELF ?!
KNUCKLE ?!
AND THAT IS FOR YOU TO STAY HIDDEN AS LONG AS POSSIBLE!!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING YOU SHOULD BE DOING RIGHT NOW!!

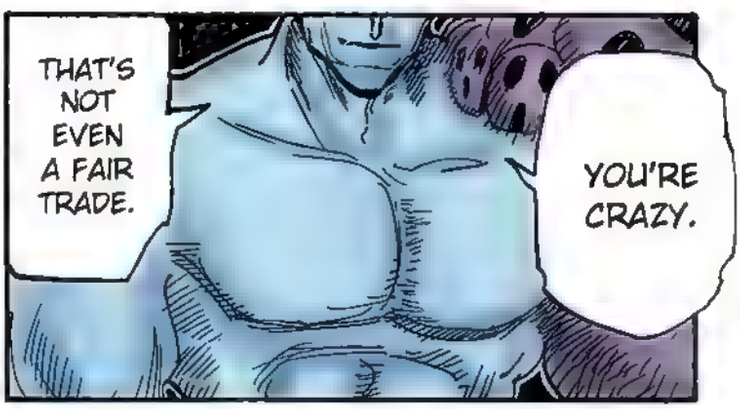
SO...

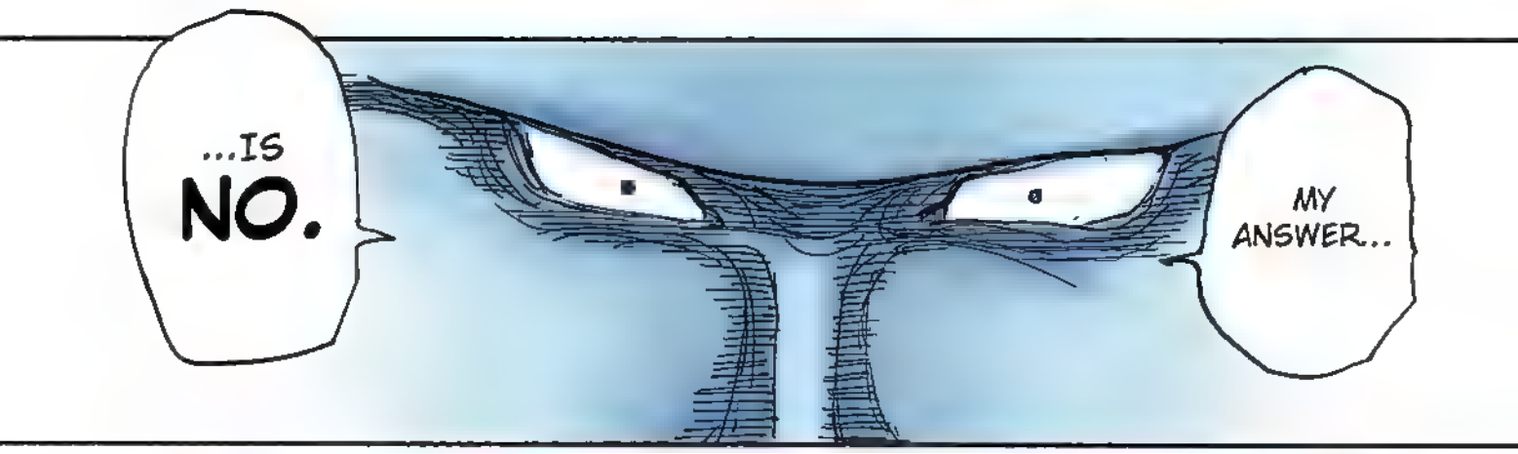

I'LL TAKE YOU ON.
I'M DONE RUNNING AND HIDING.

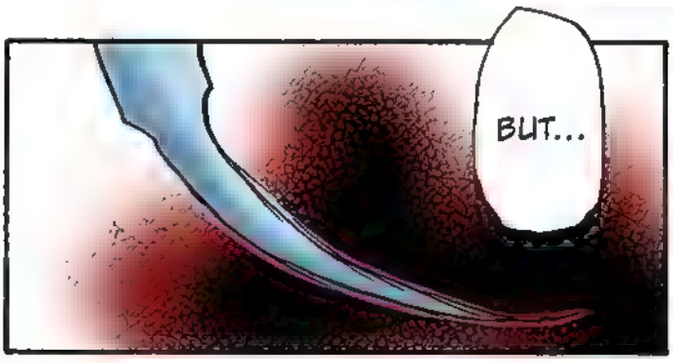

PLEASE LET THEM GO!!

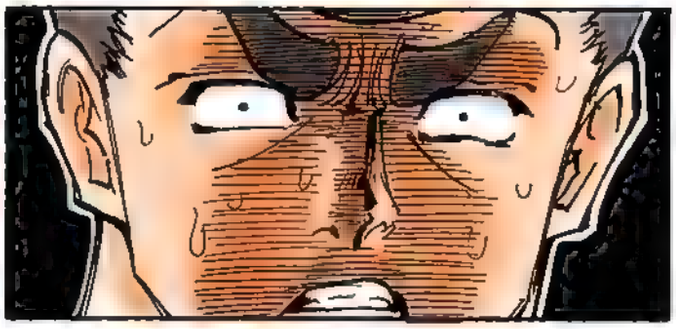

KNUCKLE TOOK A CHANCE ON WORDS, AND NOT FISTS.
AND THAT'S BECAUSE YOUPI'S WORDS HAD TOUCHED HIM.
.....




THAT'S NOT EVEN A FAIR TRADE.
YOU'RE CRAZY.







GET RID OF THIS THING...

...THEN WE CAN TALK.

NOW THOSE WOULD BE EQUAL TERMS.

HE'S THE THING YOU'VE BEEN DODGING AROUND TO PROTECT, HUH?

NO...

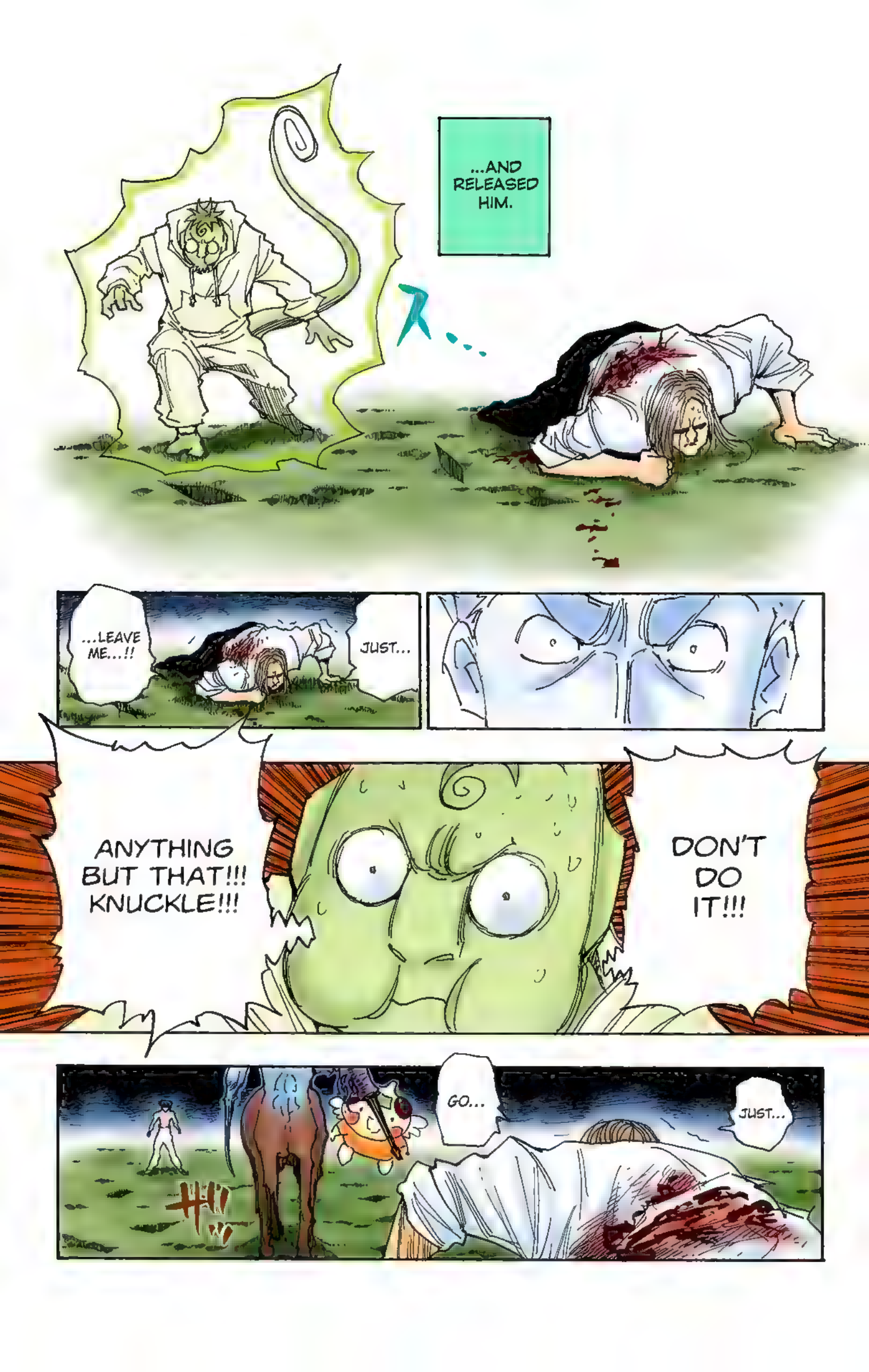
KNUCKLE!!! DON'T BE A FOOL...!!

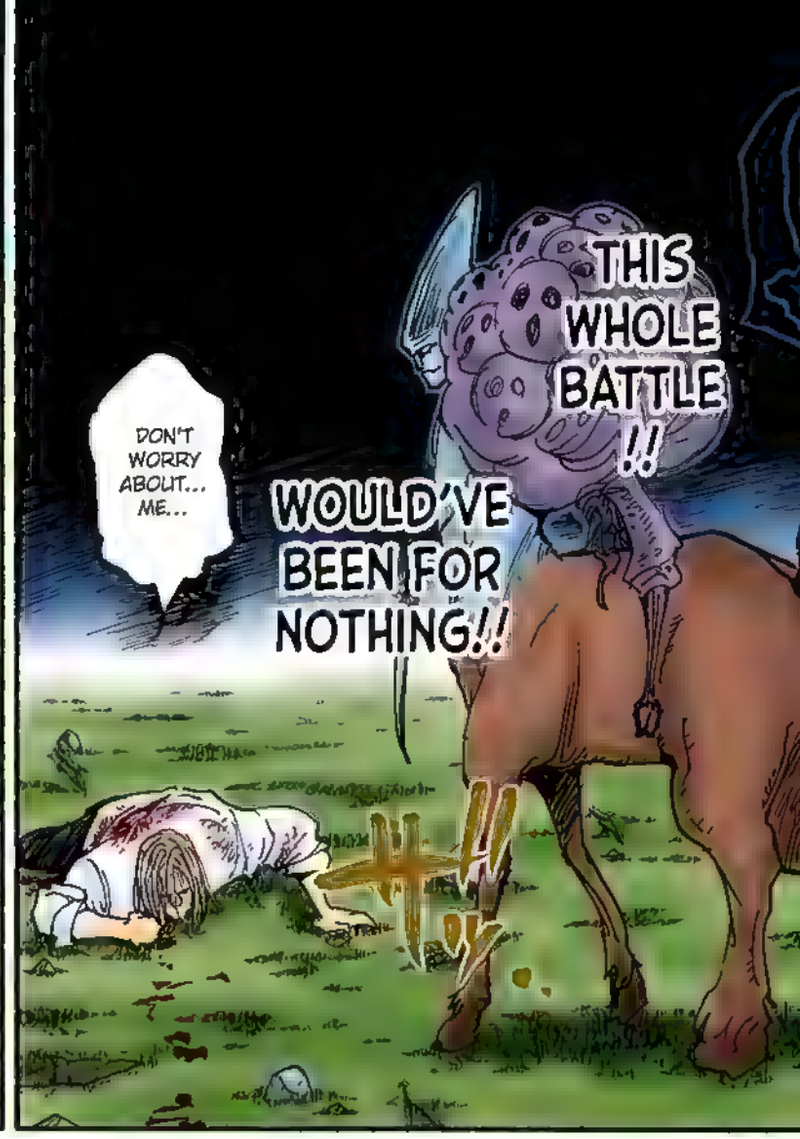
DON'T DO IT...!!

MELEORON CAME TO HIS SENSES...

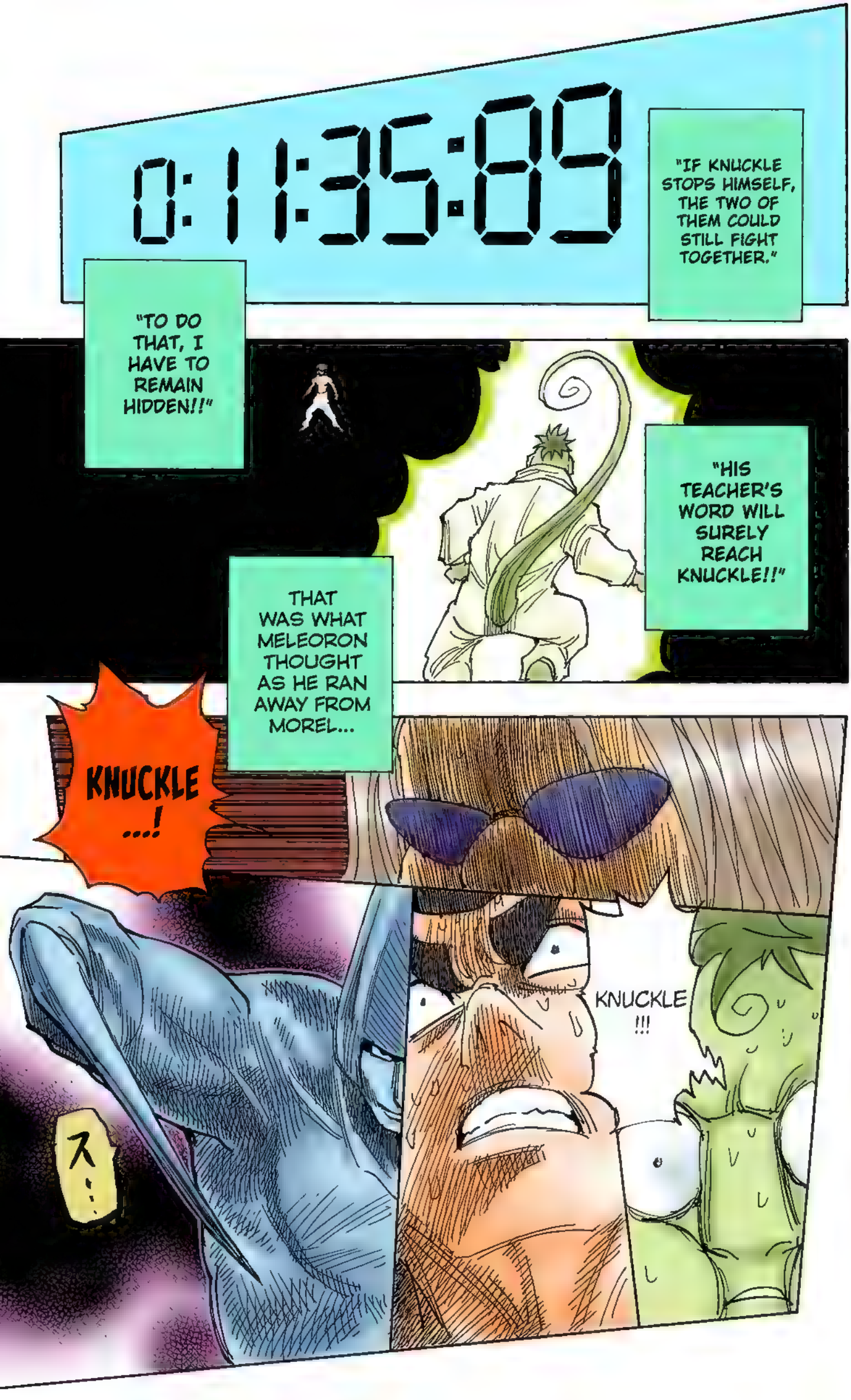
BUT...

MOREL'S DESPERATE CRY DID NOT REACH KNUCKLE DUE TO "*GOD'S ACCOMPLICE.*"

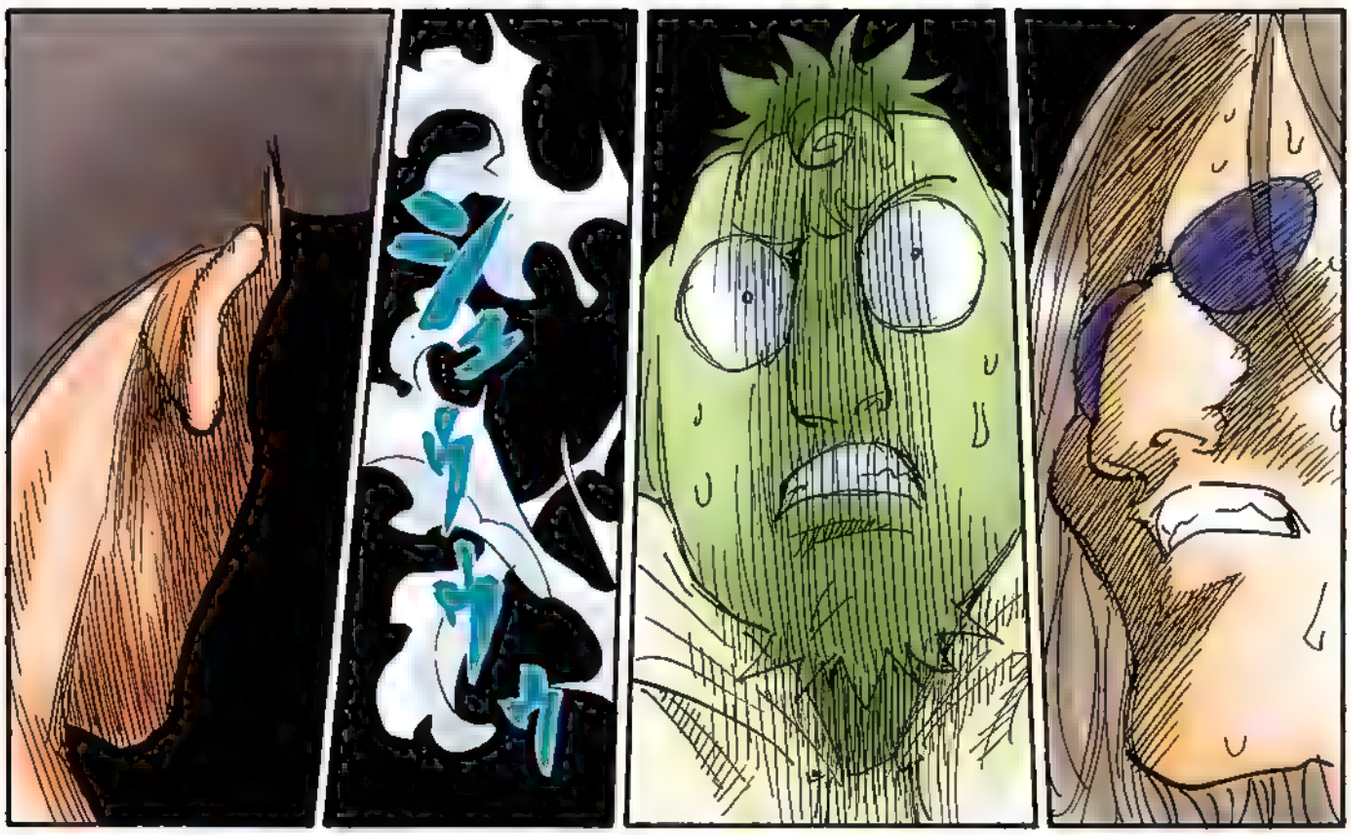

...AND RELEASED HIM.
...LEAVE ME...!!
JUST...
ANYTHING BUT THAT!!! KNUCKLE!!!
DON'T DO IT!!!
GO...
JUST...

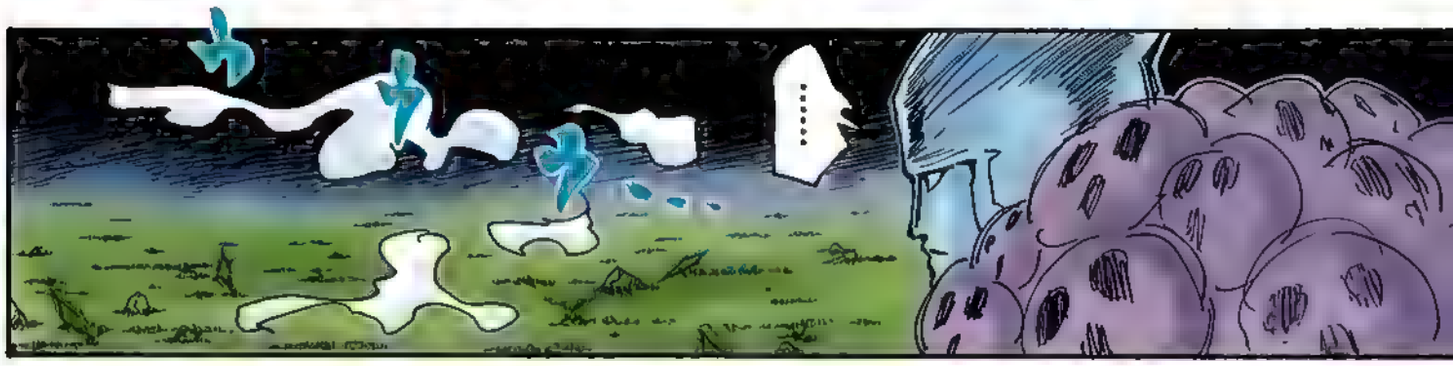


EVERY-THING YOU'VE ALL HAVE DONE BY RISKING YOUR LIVES!!


0:11:35:89
"IF KNUCKLE STOPS HIMSELF, THE TWO OF THEM COULD STILL FIGHT TOGETHER."
"TO DO THAT, I HAVE TO REMAIN HIDDEN!!"
"HIS TEACHER'S WORD WILL SURELY REACH KNUCKLE!!"
THAT WAS WHAT MELEORON THOUGHT AS HE RAN AWAY FROM MOREL...
KNUCKLE ...!
KNUCKLE !!!
ス!

01:39:07
BUT HIS PLAN BACKFIRED.

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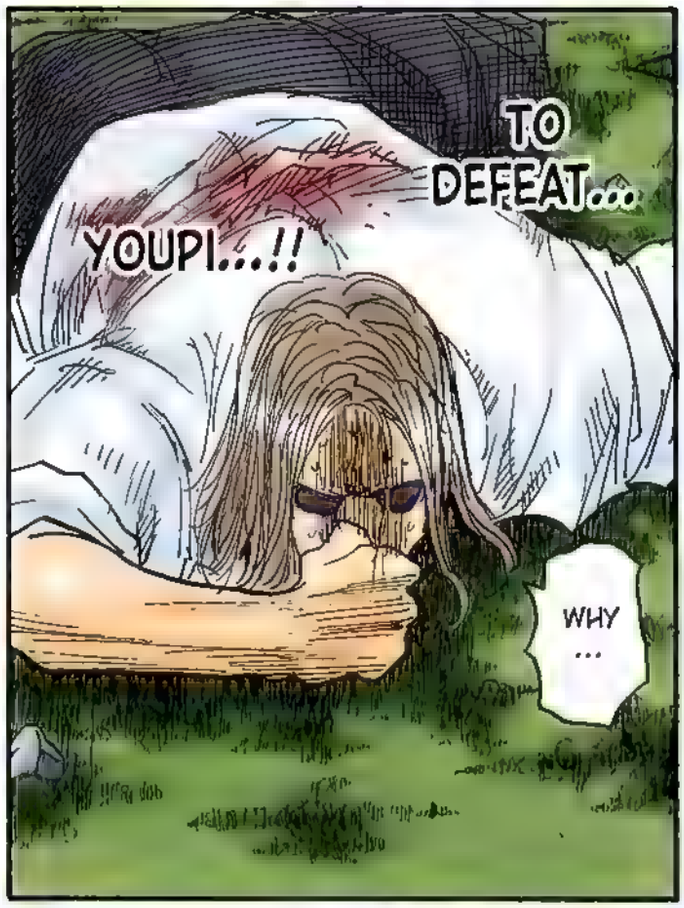
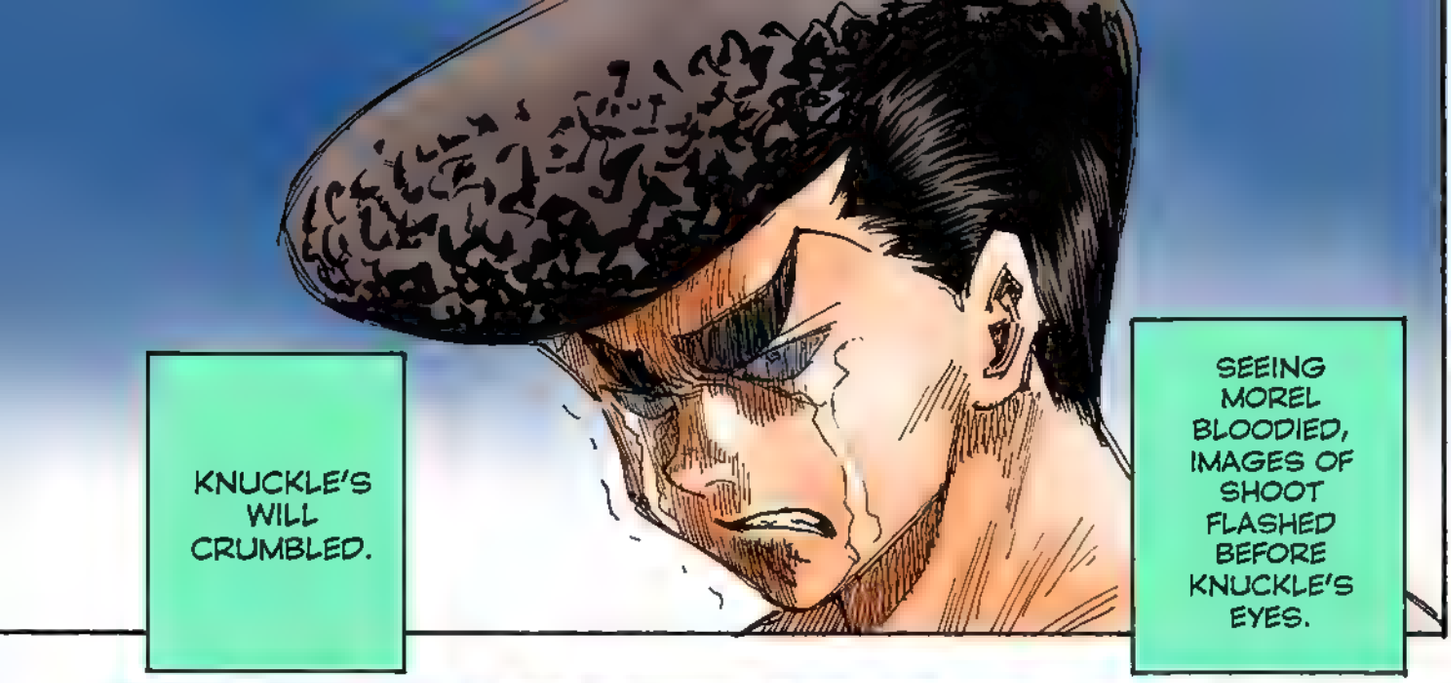
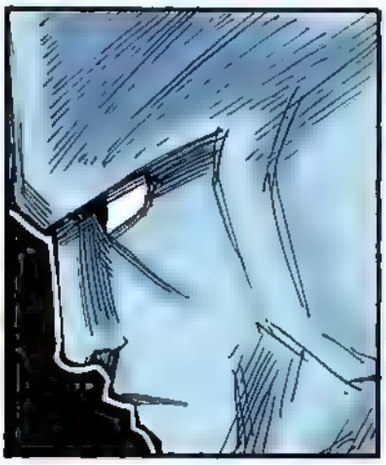
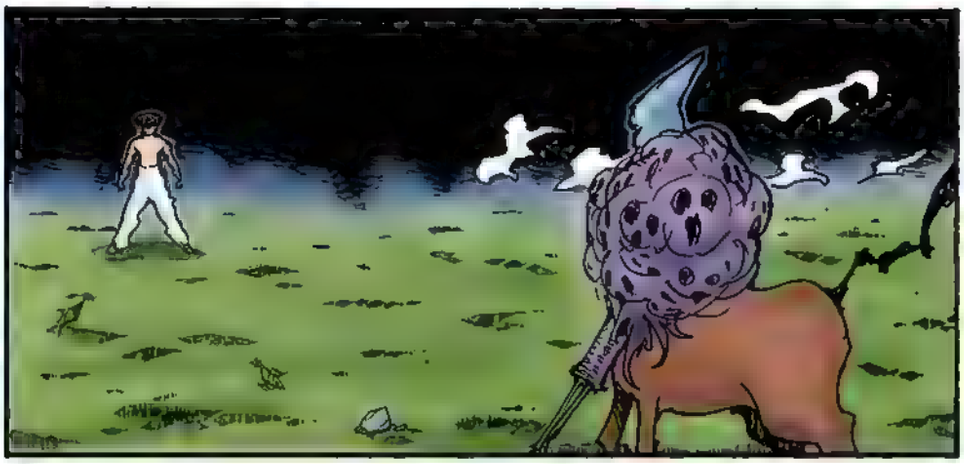
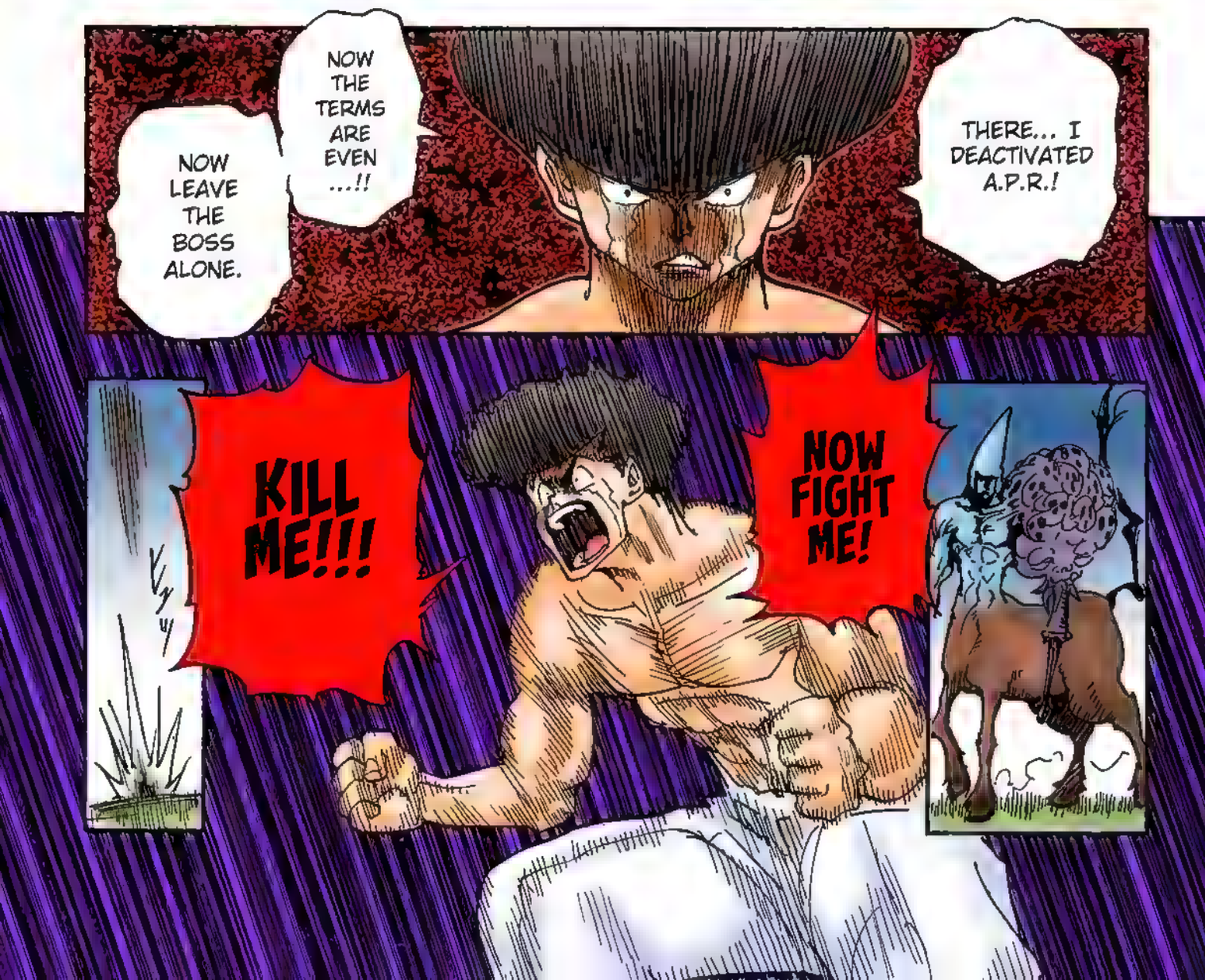

YOUPI...!!
TO DEFEAT...
WHY ...

NO WAY ...
.....
WE...
NO LONGER HAVE A WAY...


KNUCKLE'S WILL CRUMBLED.
SEEING MOREL BLOODIED, IMAGES OF SHOOT FLASHED BEFORE KNUCKLE'S EYES.

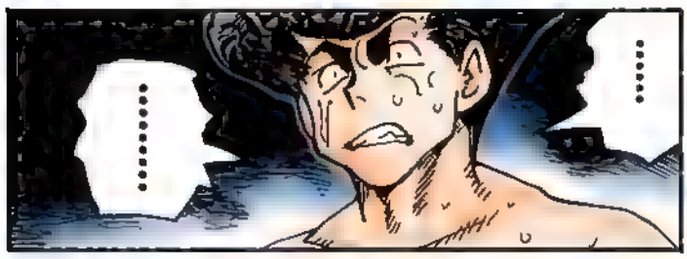


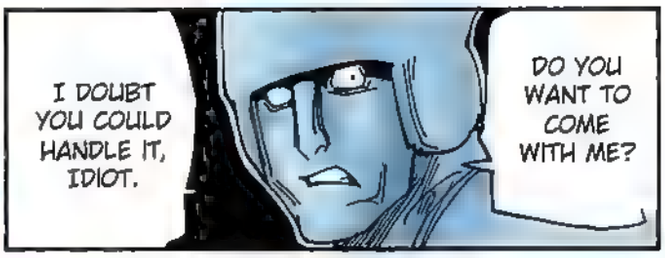



NOW LEAVE THE BOSS ALONE.
NOW THE TERMS ARE EVEN ...!!
THERE... I DEACTIVATED A.P.R.!
KILL ME!!!
NOW FIGHT ME!

SCREW THAT.

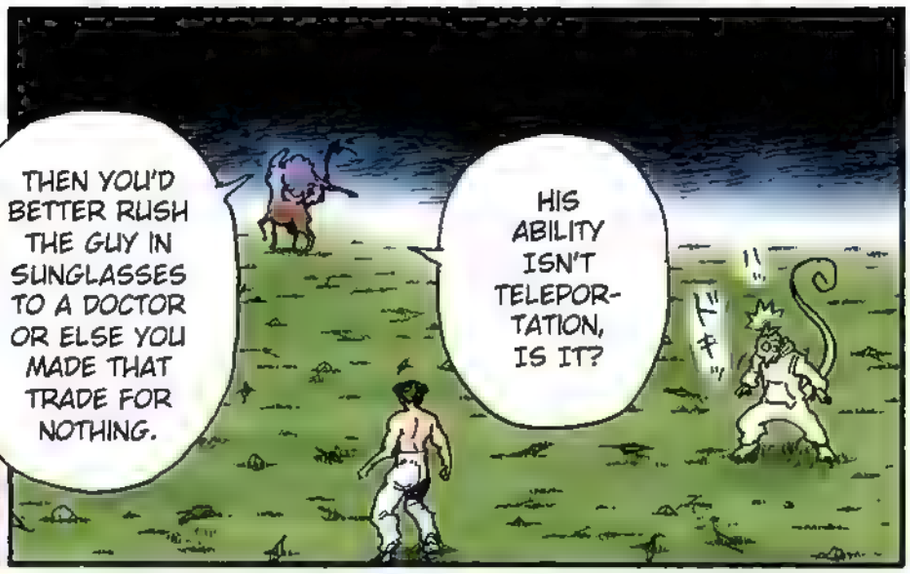
TO THE KING, OBVIOUSLY.
HM?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
WHAT THE... HOLD ON!!

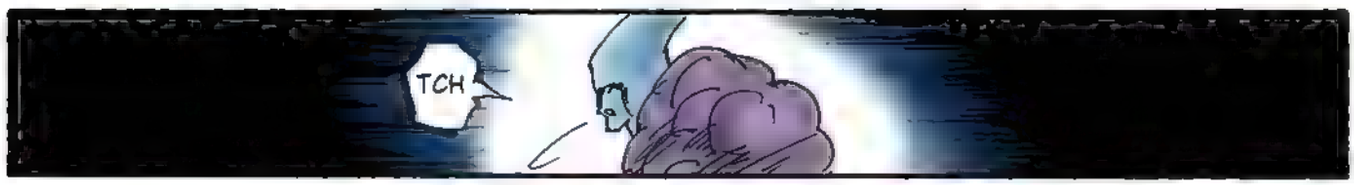

.....
.....

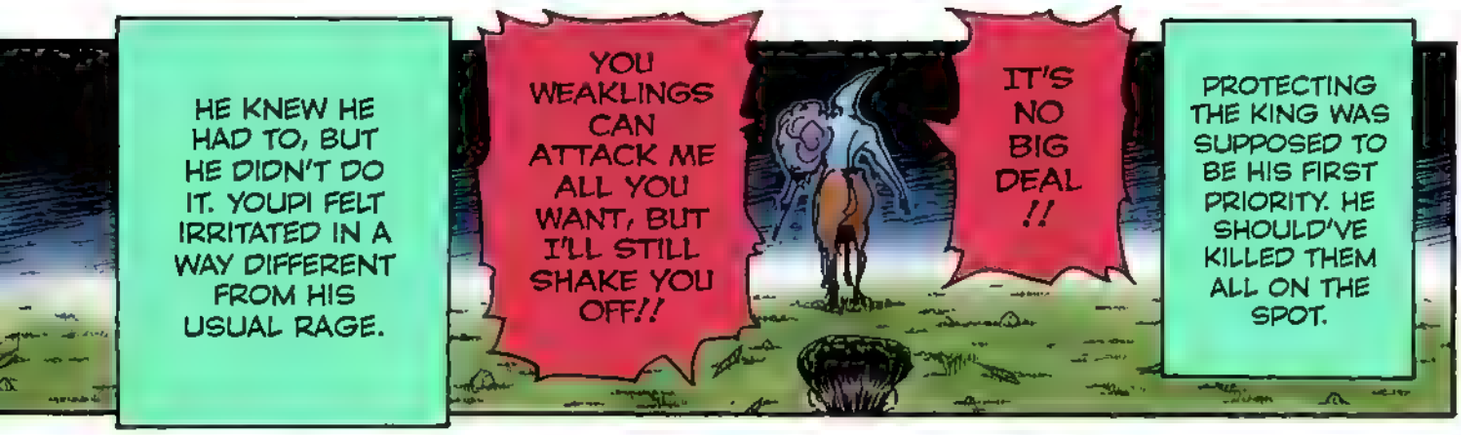

I DOUBT YOU COULD HANDLE IT, IDIOT.
DO YOU WANT TO COME WITH ME?

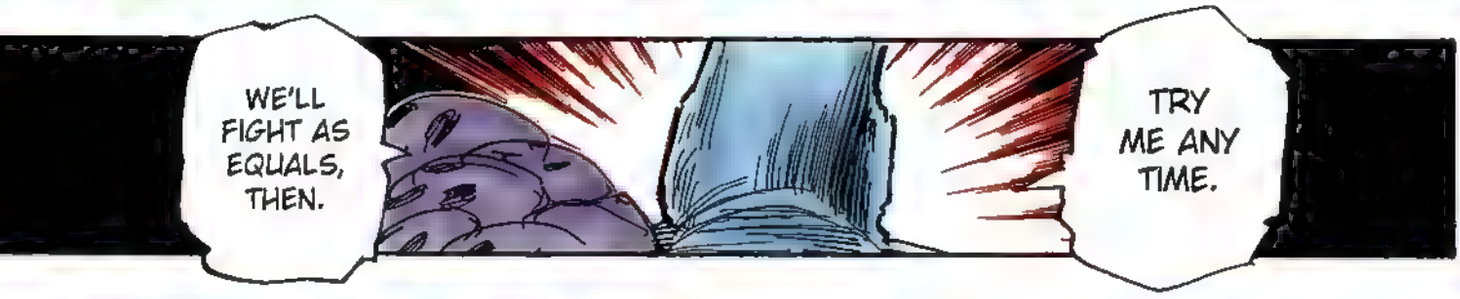
……

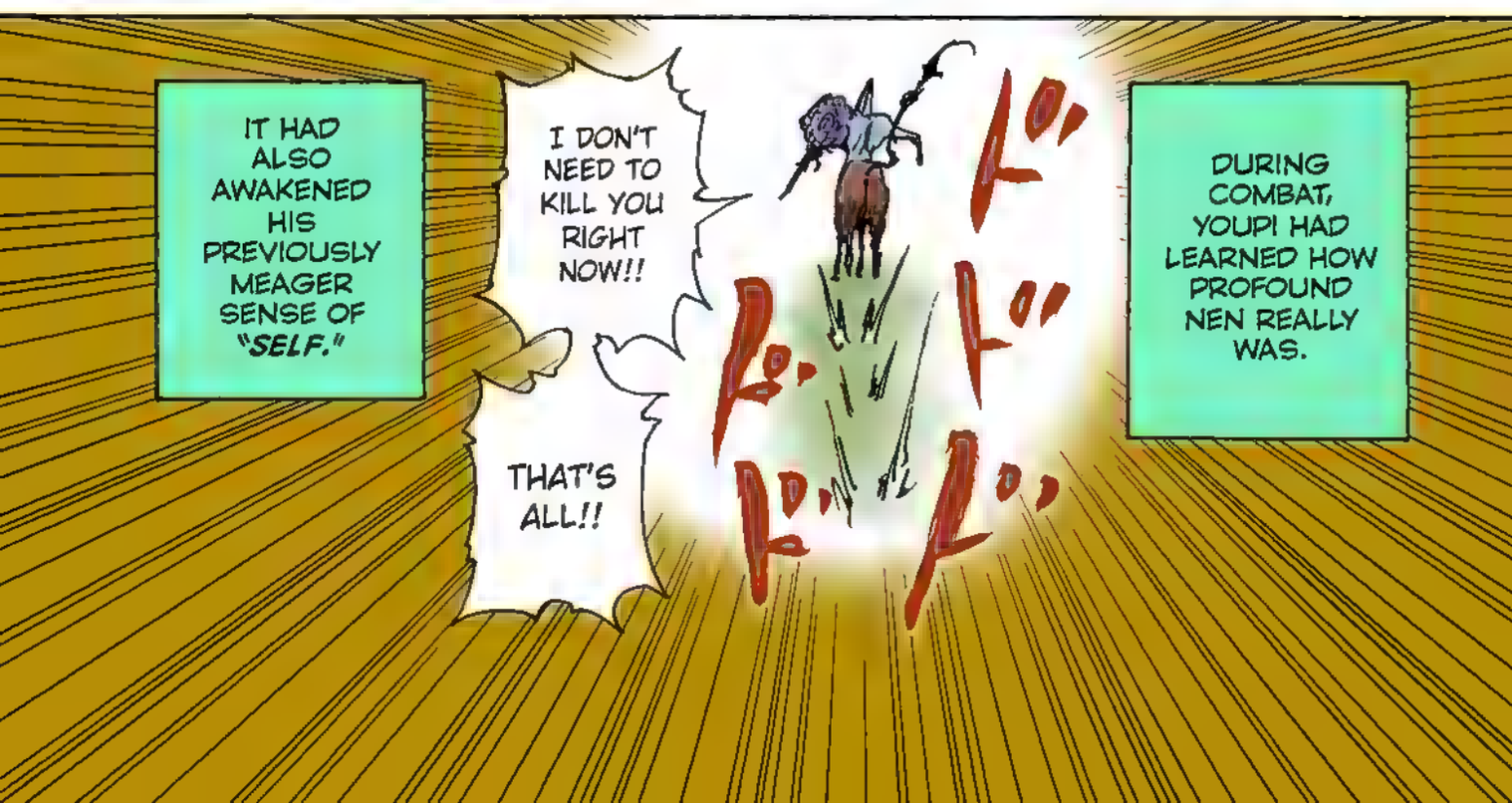
THEN YOU'D BETTER RUSH THE GUY IN SUNGLASSES TO A DOCTOR OR ELSE YOU MADE THAT TRADE FOR NOTHING.

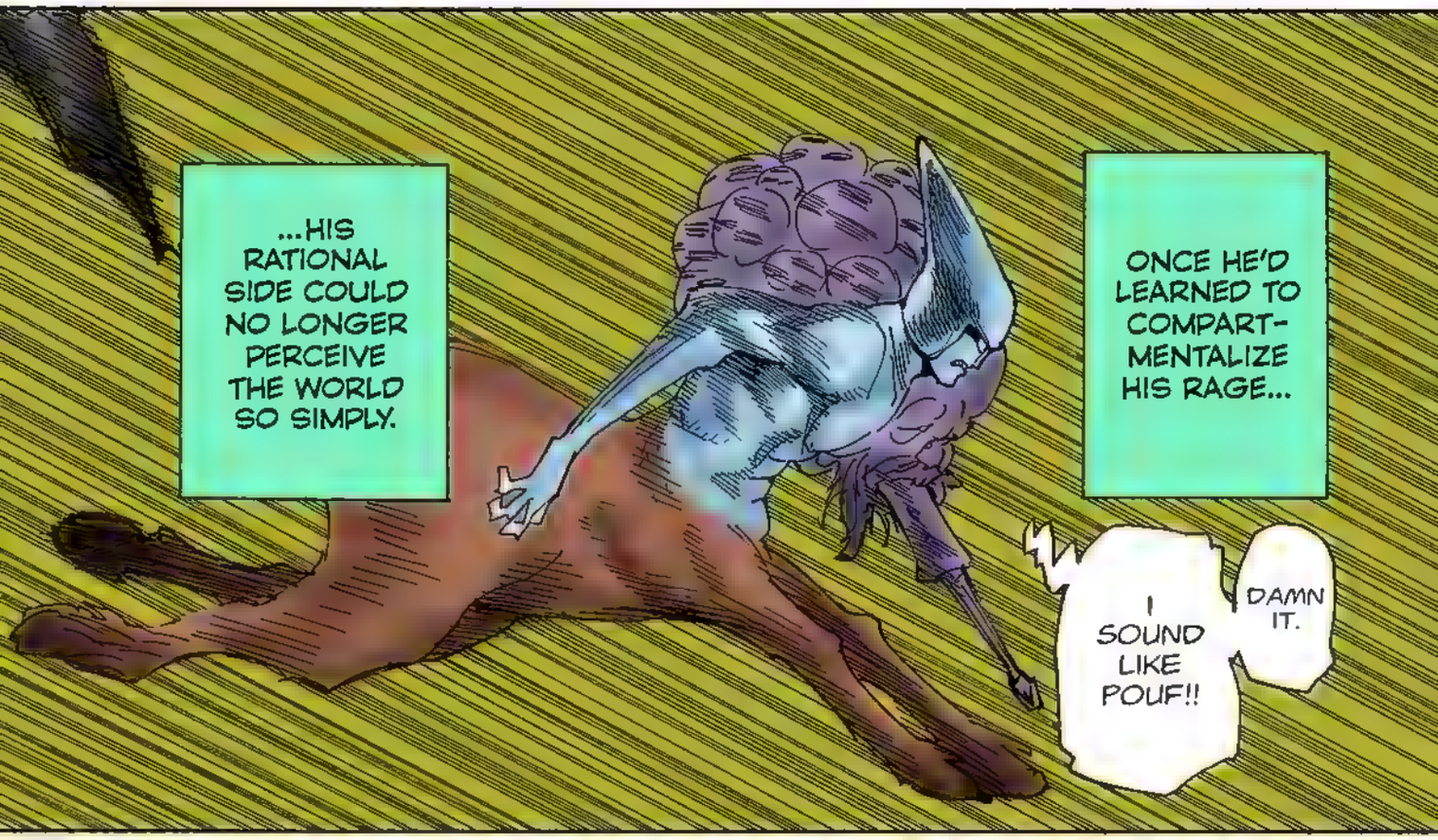

HIS ABILITY ISN'T TELEPORTATION, IS IT?
ドキ

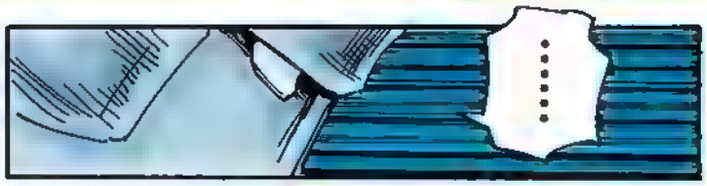

TCH


HE KNEW HE HAD TO, BUT HE DIDN'T DO IT. YOUPI FELT IRRITATED IN A WAY DIFFERENT FROM HIS USUAL RAGE.
YOU WEAKLINGS CAN ATTACK ME ALL YOU WANT, BUT I'LL STILL SHAKE YOU OFF!!
IT'S NO BIG DEAL !!
PROTECTING THE KING WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HIS FIRST PRIORITY. HE SHOULD'VE KILLED THEM ALL ON THE SPOT.


WE'LL FIGHT AS EQUALS, THEN.
TRY ME ANY TIME.


IT HAD ALSO AWAKENED HIS PREVIOUSLY MEAGER SENSE OF "SELF."
I DON'T NEED TO KILL YOU RIGHT NOW!!
THAT'S ALL!!
DURING COMBAT, YOUPI HAD LEARNED HOW PROFOUND NEN REALLY WAS.


...HIS RATIONAL SIDE COULD NO LONGER PERCEIVE THE WORLD SO SIMPLY.
ONCE HE'D LEARNED TO COMPART-MENTALIZE HIS RAGE...
I SOUND LIKE POUF!!
DAMN IT.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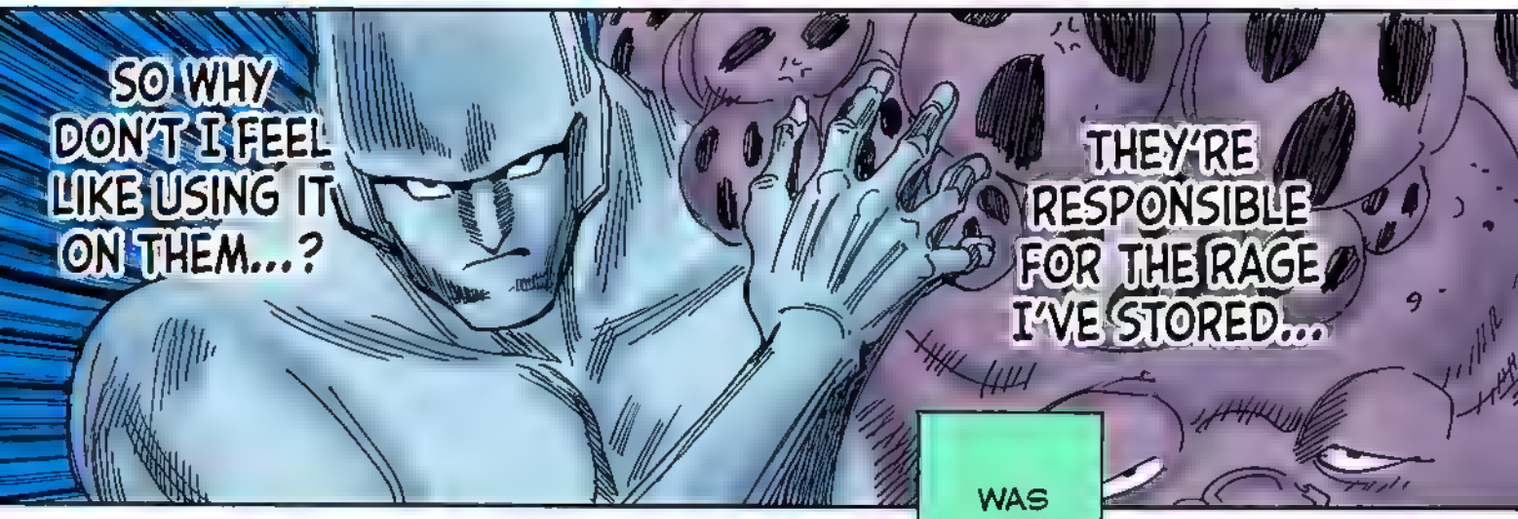
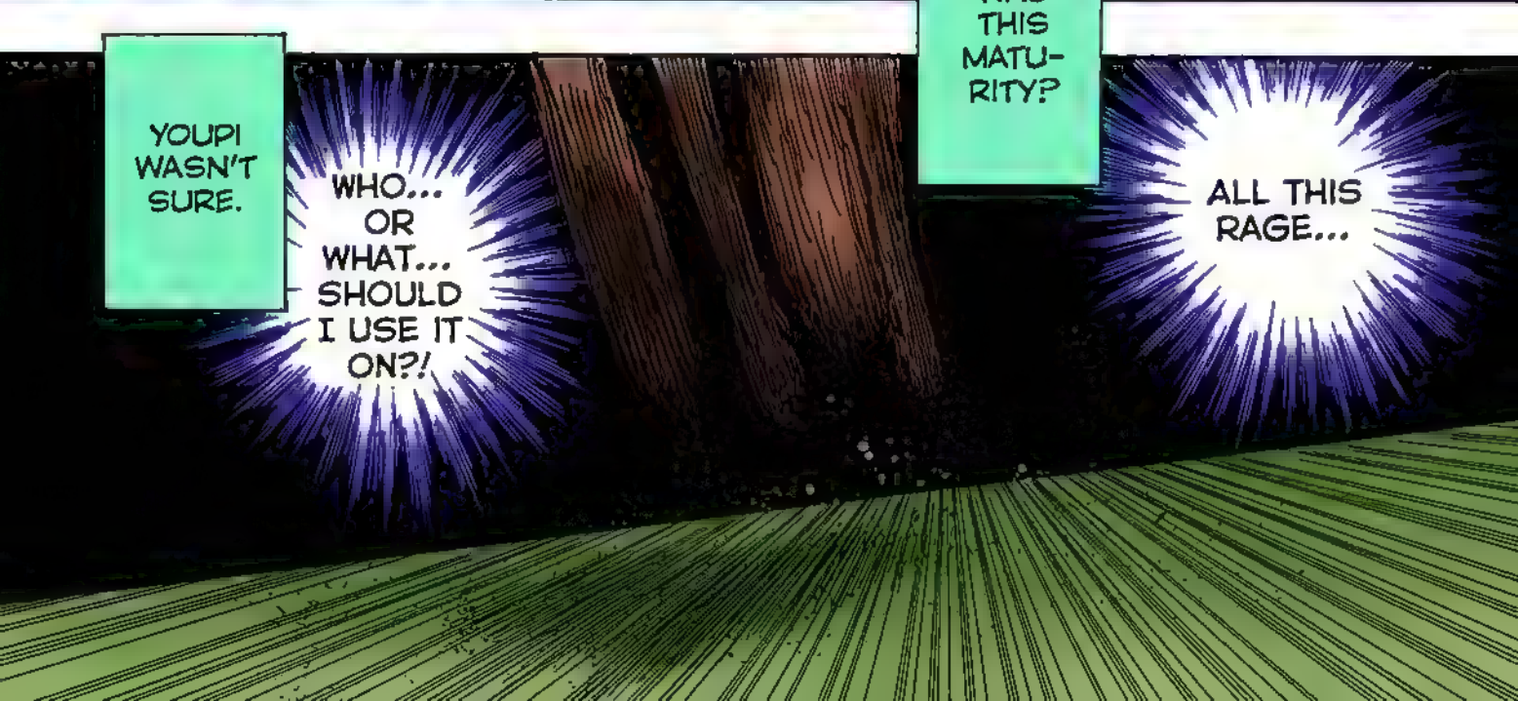
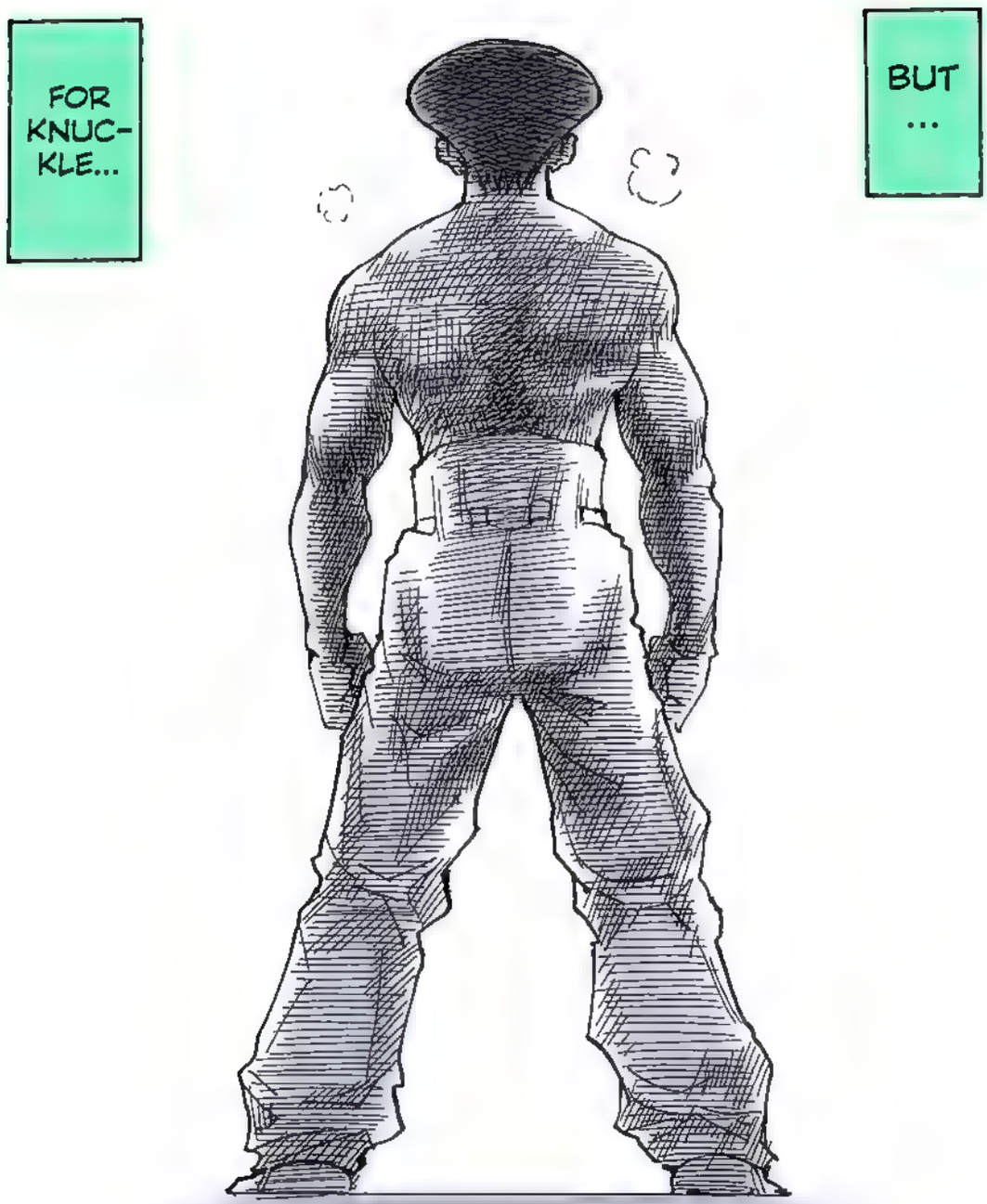

SO WHY DON'T I FEEL LIKE USING IT ON THEM...?
THEY'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RAGE I'VE STORED...


YOUPI WASN'T SURE.
WHO... OR WHAT... SHOULD I USE IT ON?!
WAS THIS MATU-RITY?
ALL THIS RAGE...



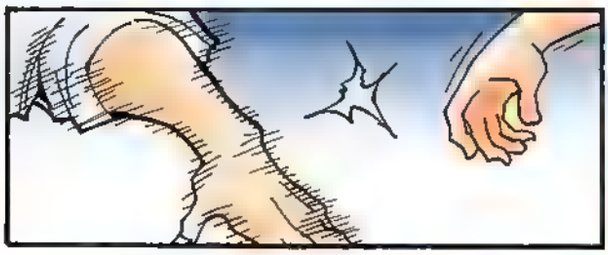
LOST...

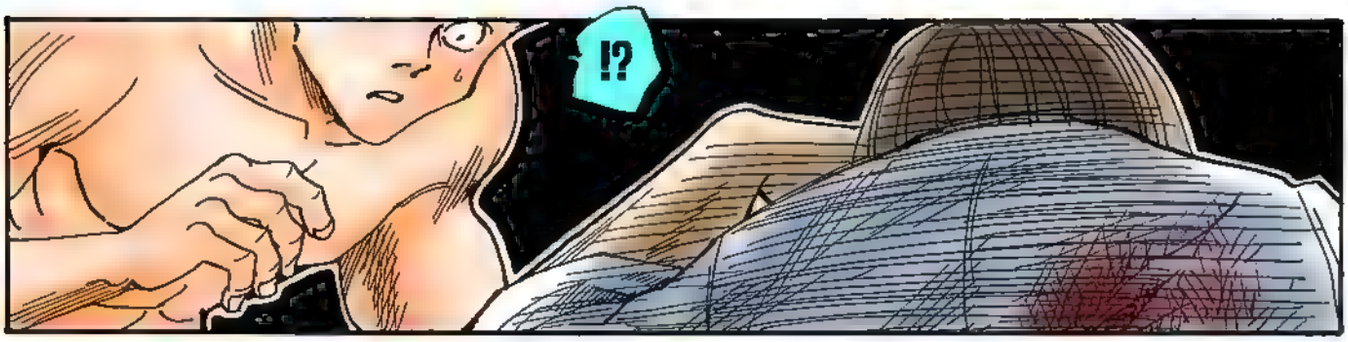
I COMPLETELY...

WE GOTTA HELP THE BIG GUY!!

KNUCKLE !!

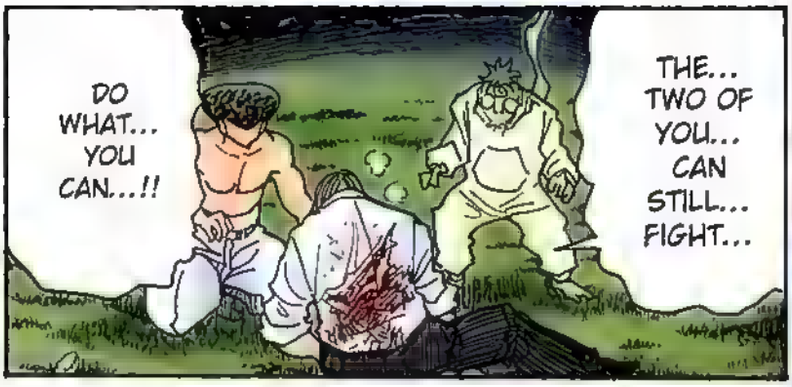
No.290 ◆ NAME

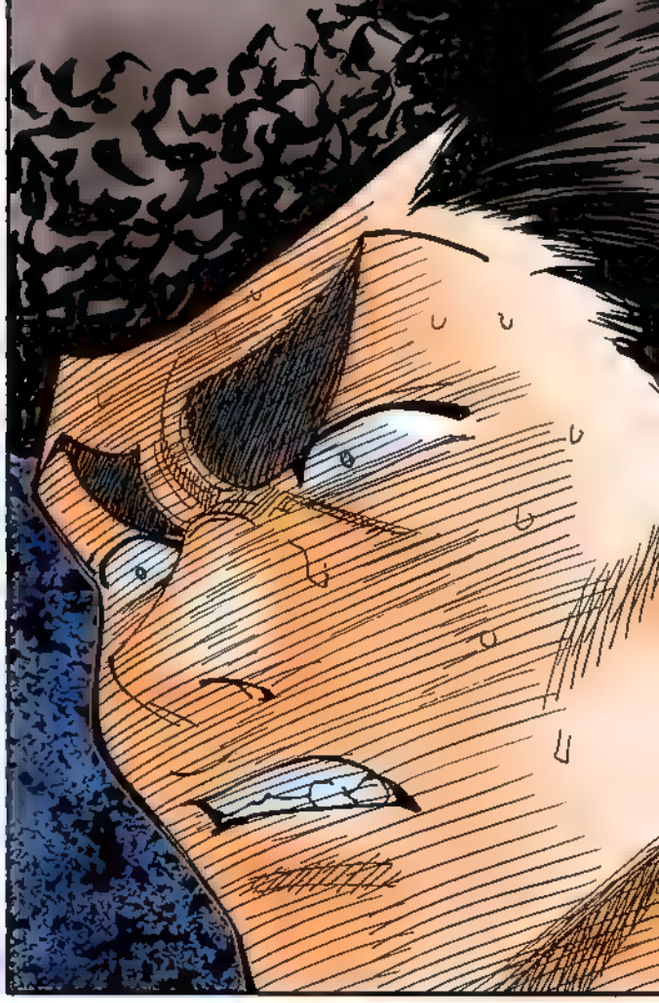


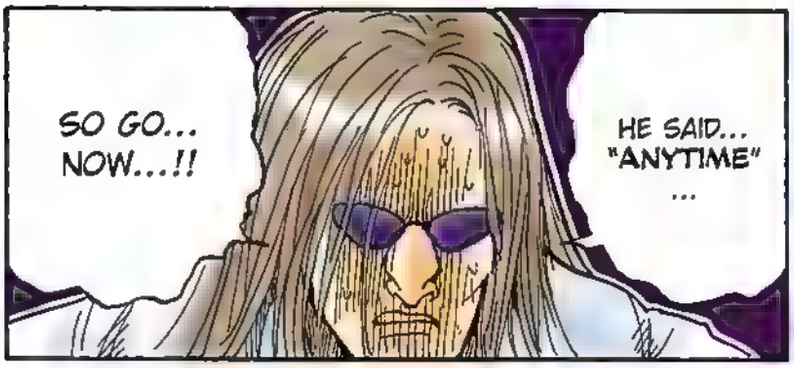


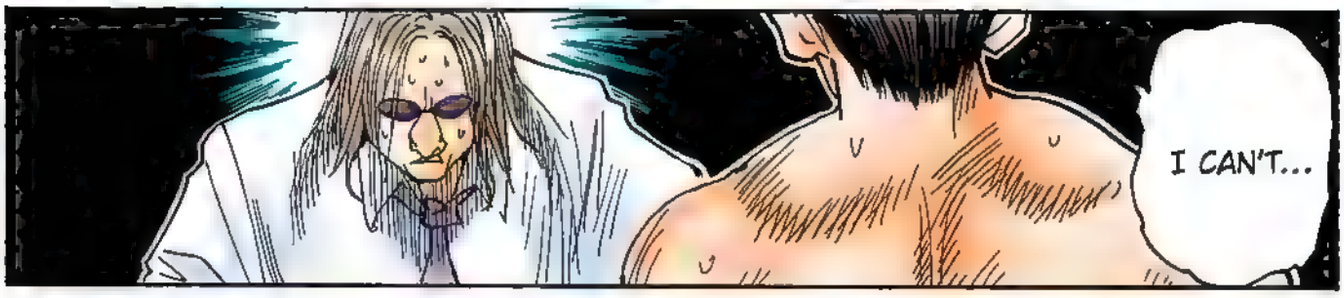
NOW GO...!!

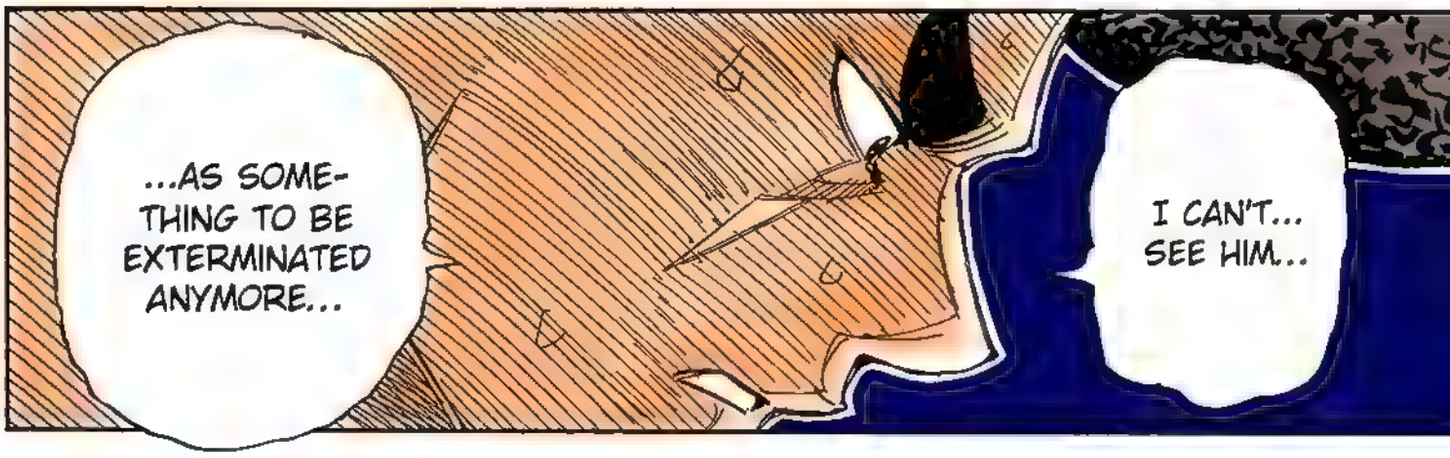
I TOLD YOU... TO LEAVE ME HERE...


DO WHAT... YOU CAN...!!
THE... TWO OF YOU... CAN STILL... FIGHT...

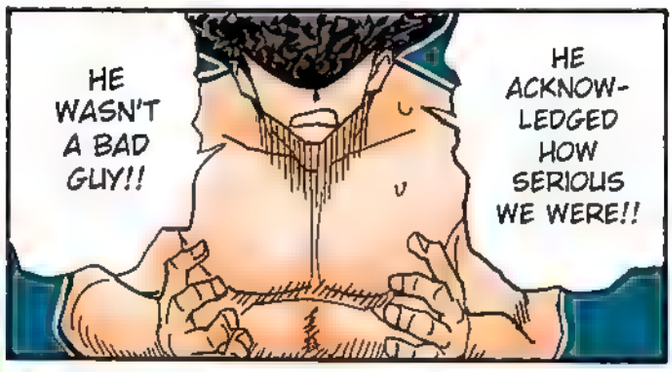



SO GO... NOW...!!
HE SAID... "ANYTIME" ...

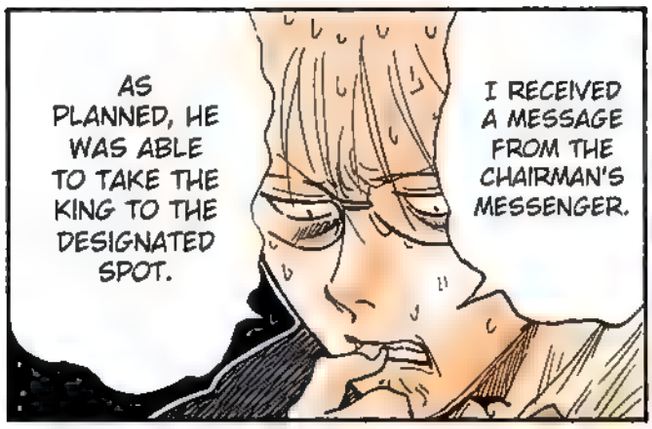

I CAN'T...

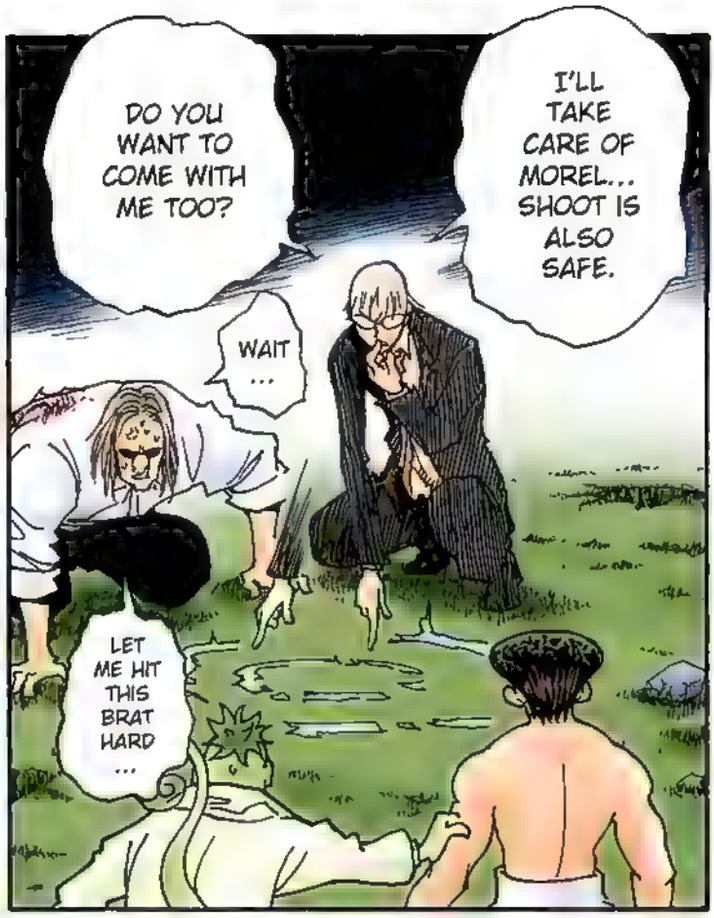

...AS SOME-THING TO BE EXTERMINATED ANYMORE...
I CAN'T... SEE HIM...

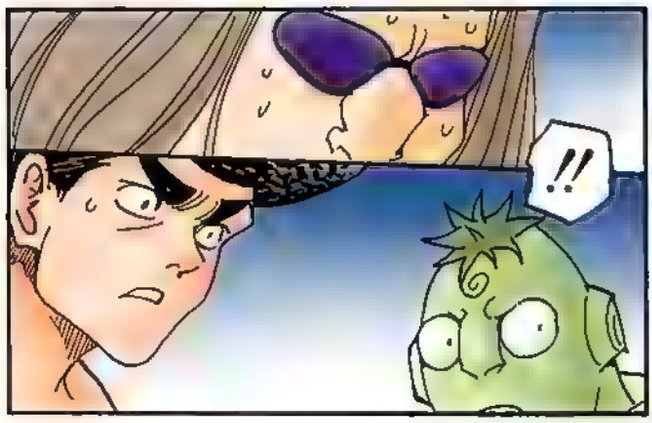
...TO KEEP DOING THIS...!!
SO... I... I DON'T SEE ANY REASON...

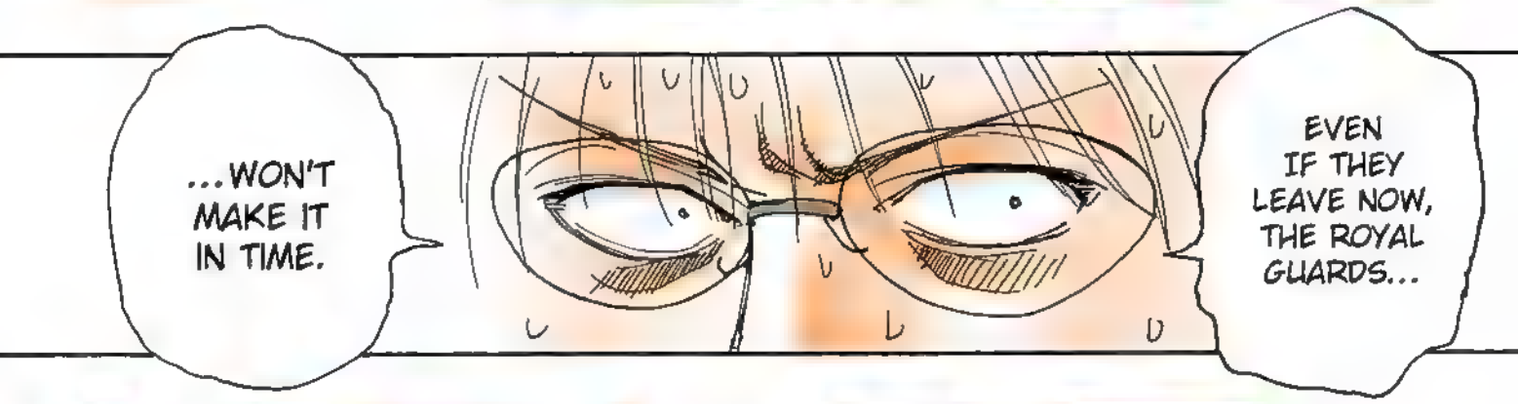

HE WASN'T A BAD GUY!!
HE ACKNOW-LEDGED HOW SERIOUS WE WERE!!

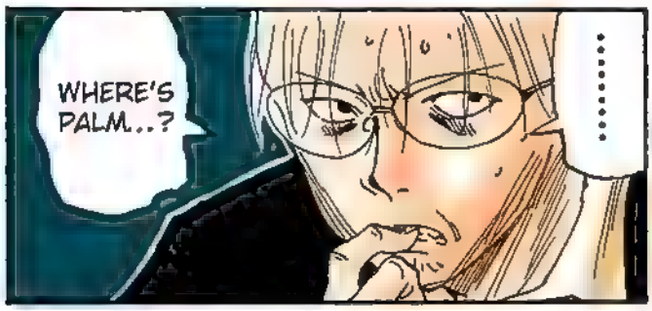
THE KING ...!
MR. KNOV.
THE KING CAN WAVE HIS MAGIC WAND AND TURN THEM ALL INTO EVIL SPAWN...!!
THE SOLDIERS ARE NOT IMPORTANT.

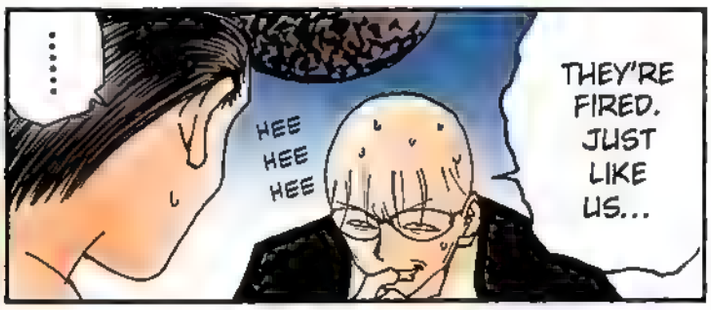

AS PLANNED, HE WAS ABLE TO TAKE THE KING TO THE DESIGNATED SPOT.
I RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSENGER.

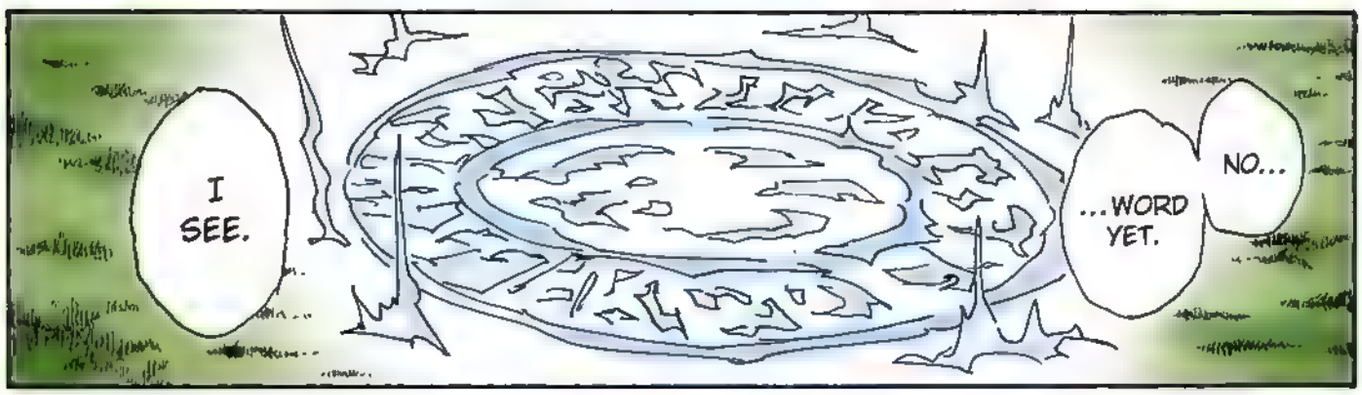

DO YOU WANT TO COME WITH ME TOO?
I'LL TAKE CARE OF MOREL... SHOOT IS ALSO SAFE.
WAIT ...
LET ME HIT THIS BRAT HARD ...

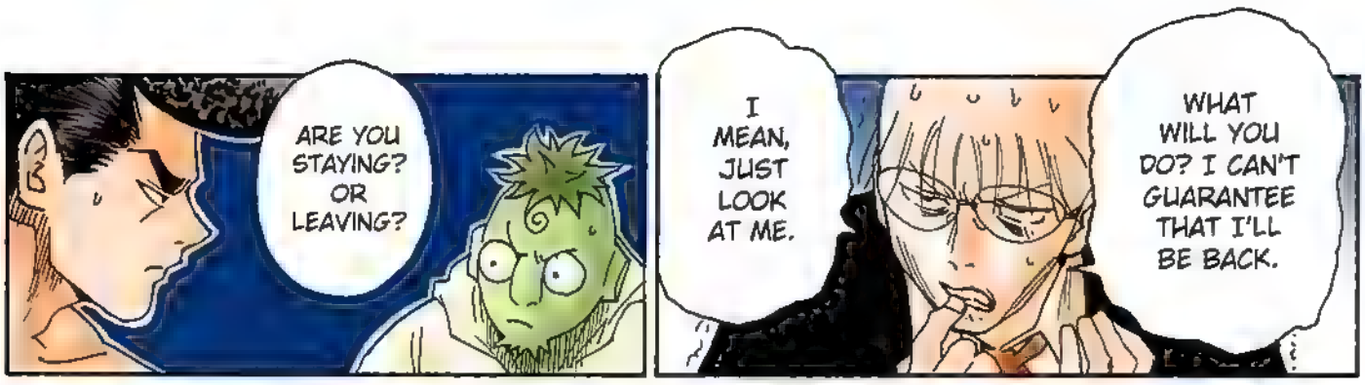

!!

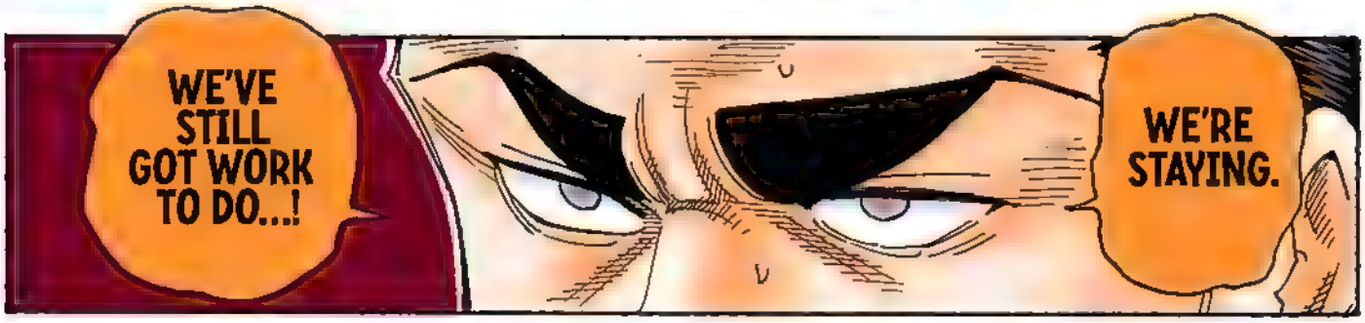

...WON'T MAKE IT IN TIME.
EVEN IF THEY LEAVE NOW, THE ROYAL GUARDS...

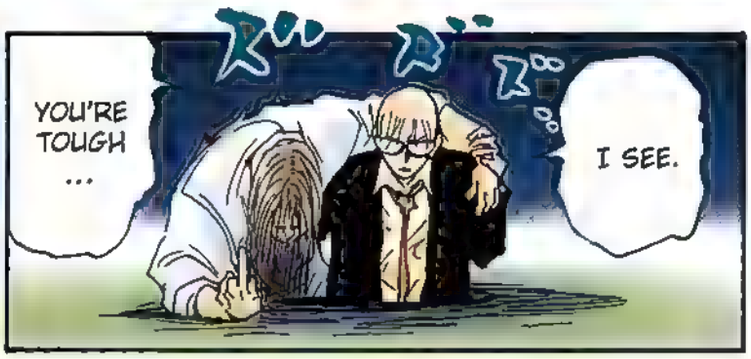

WHERE'S PALM...?
.....


.....
HEE HEE HEE
THEY'RE FIRED. JUST LIKE US...


I SEE.
...WORD YET.
NO...

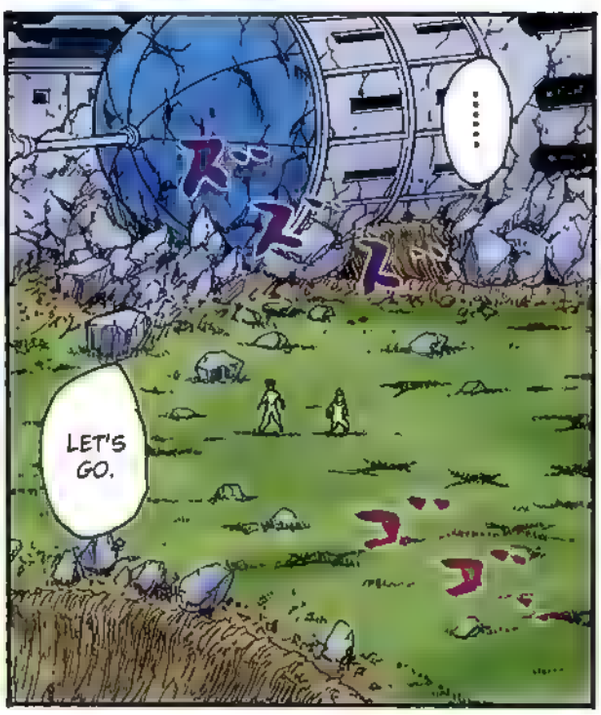

ARE YOU STAYING? OR LEAVING?
I MEAN, JUST LOOK AT ME.
WHAT WILL YOU DO? I CAN'T GUARANTEE THAT I'LL BE BACK.


WE'VE STILL GOT WORK TO DO...!
WE'RE STAYING.


YOU'RE TOUGH ...
I SEE.

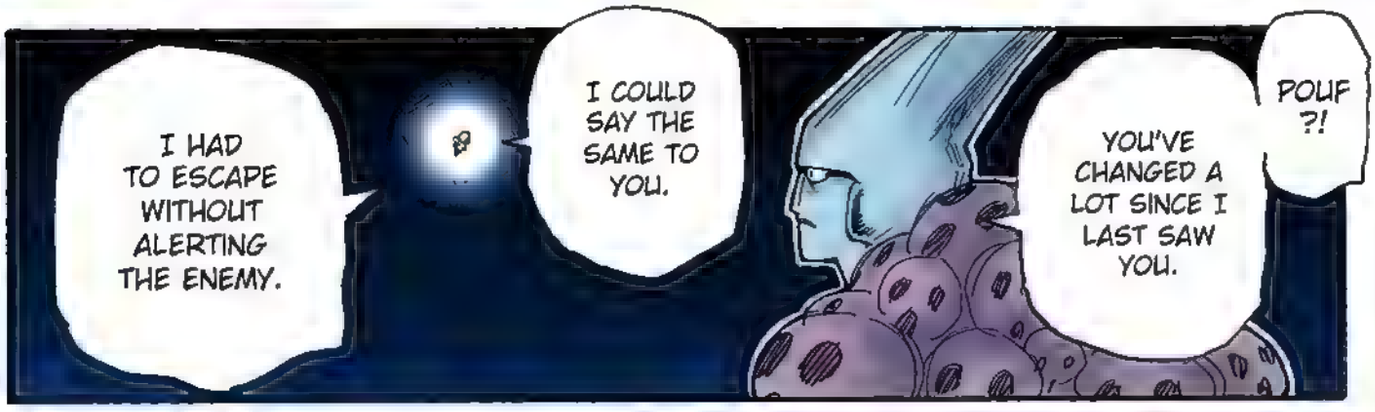
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE WE HAVE TO DO.
WE CAN DO THAT LATER.

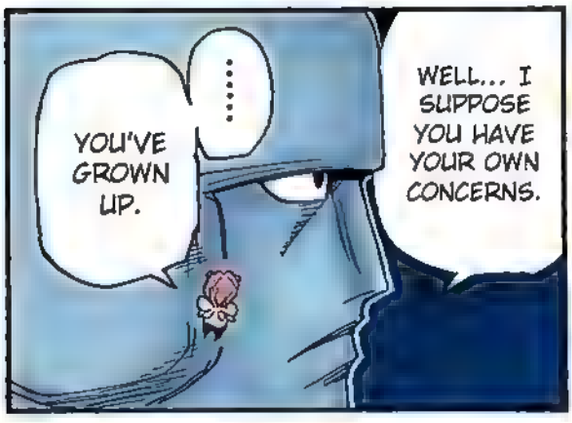
NO.
TO LOOK FOR PALM?

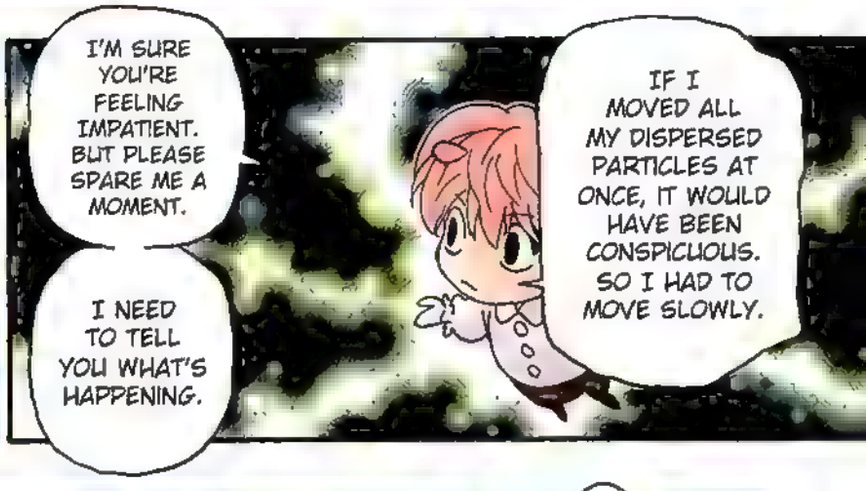

.....
LET'S GO.

...ROYAL GUARD.
YOUPI'S NOT THE ONLY...

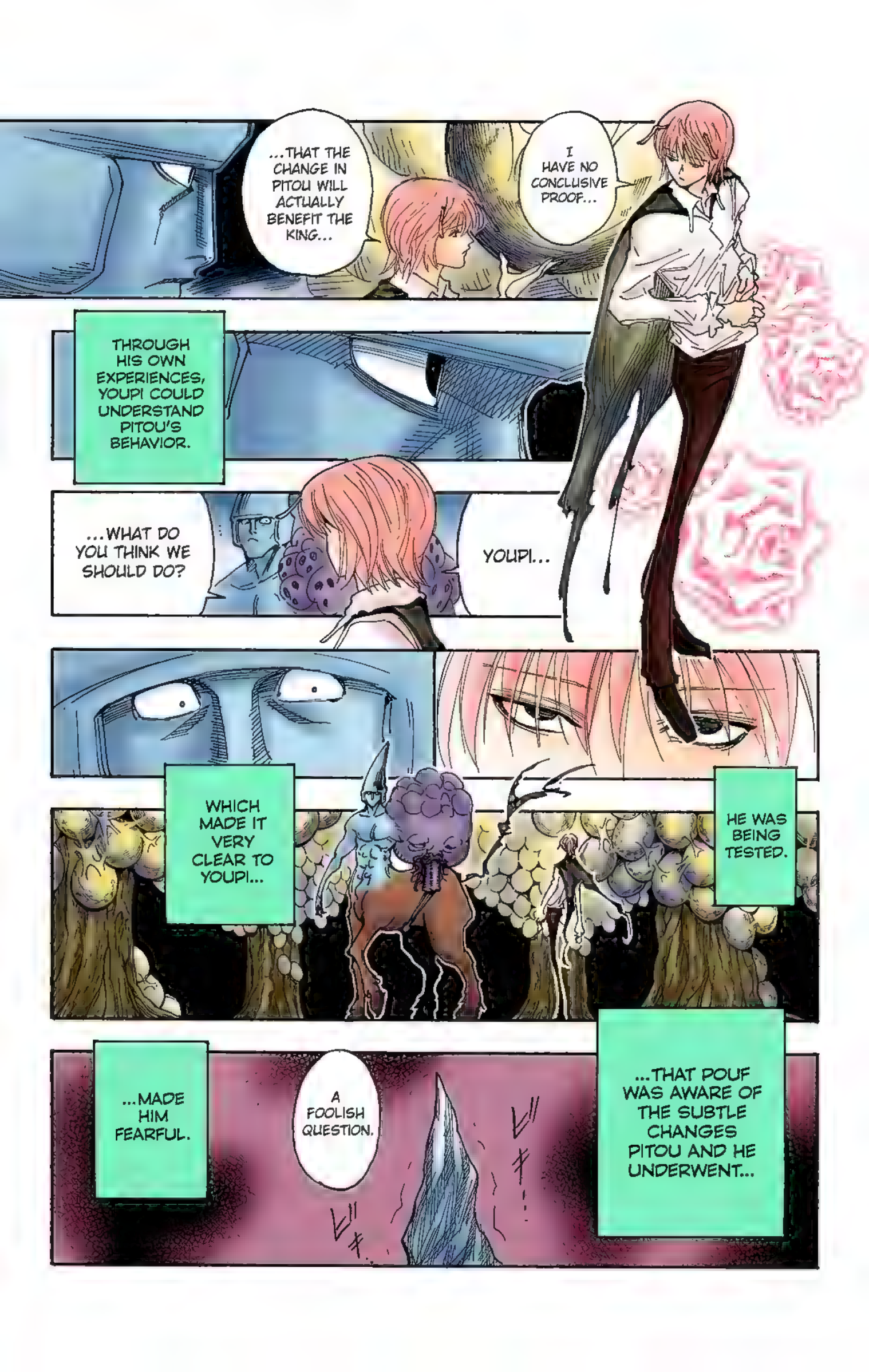
I CAN'T SENSE ANYONE ELSE FIGHTING...
DOES THAT MEAN I'M THE ONLY ONE LEFT...?
!?
YOU-PI!!
THAT'S ...
!

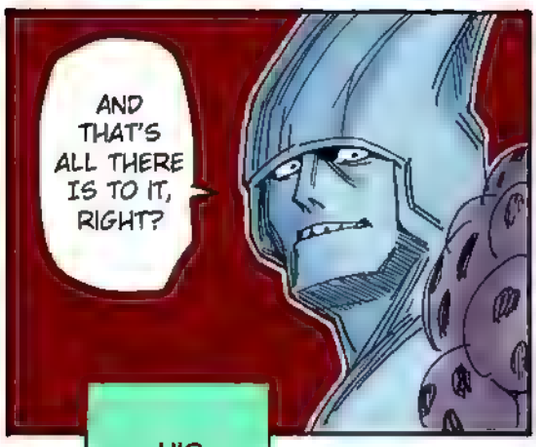

I HAD TO ESCAPE WITHOUT ALERTING THE ENEMY.
I COULD SAY THE SAME TO YOU.
YOU'VE CHANGED A LOT SINCE I LAST SAW YOU.
POUF ?!

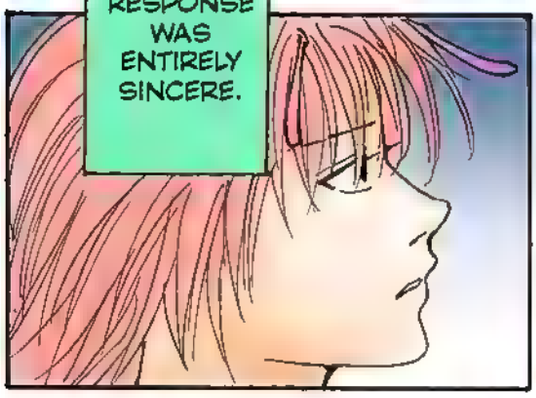

YOU'VE GROWN UP.
.....
WELL... I SUPPOSE YOU HAVE YOUR OWN CONCERNS.


I'M SURE YOU'RE FEELING IMPATIENT. BUT PLEASE SPARE ME A MOMENT.
I NEED TO TELL YOU WHAT'S HAPPENING.
IF I MOVED ALL MY DISPERSED PARTICLES AT ONCE, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSPICUOUS. SO I HAD TO MOVE SLOWLY.

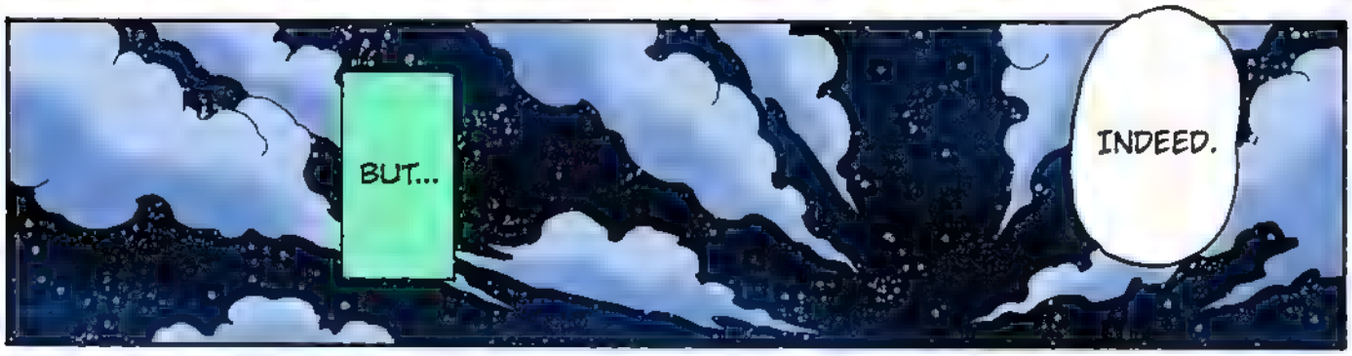
AND THERE YOU HAVE IT.
.....

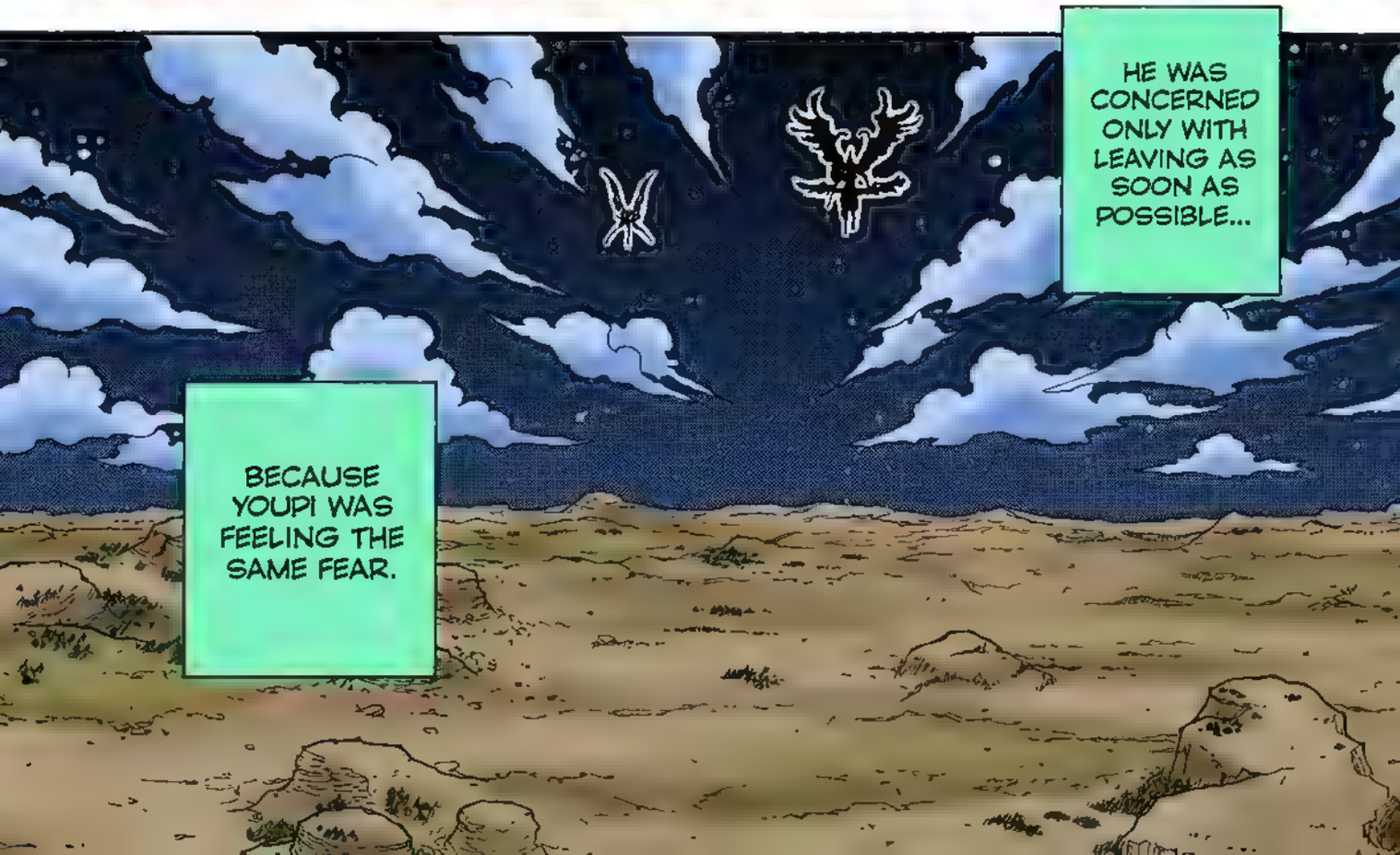

...THAT THE CHANGE IN PITOU WILL ACTUALLY BENEFIT THE KING...
I HAVE NO CONCLUSIVE PROOF...
THROUGH HIS OWN EXPERIENCES, YOUPI COULD UNDERSTAND PITOU'S BEHAVIOR.
...WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO?
YOUPI...
WHICH MADE IT VERY CLEAR TO YOUPI...
HE WAS BEING TESTED.
...MADE HIM FEARFUL.
A FOOLISH QUESTION.
...THAT POUF WAS AWARE OF THE SUBTLE CHANGES PITOU AND HE UNDERWENT...


AND THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT, RIGHT?


HIS RESPONSE WAS ENTIRELY SINCERE.

...TO THE KING !!!
WE MUST HEAD AT ONCE...


BUT...
INDEED.


HE WAS CONCERNED ONLY WITH LEAVING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...
BECAUSE YOUPI WAS FEELING THE SAME FEAR.

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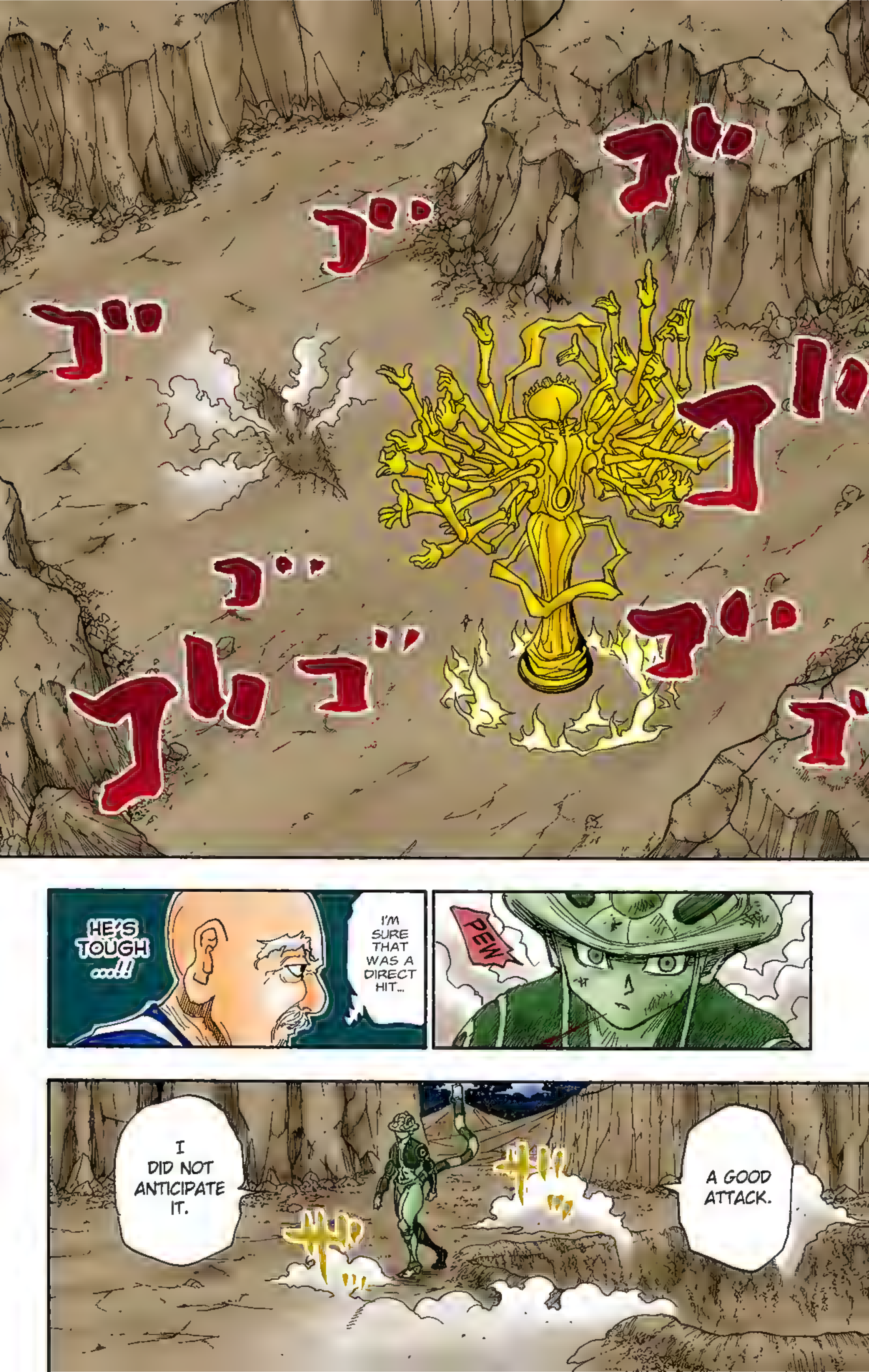
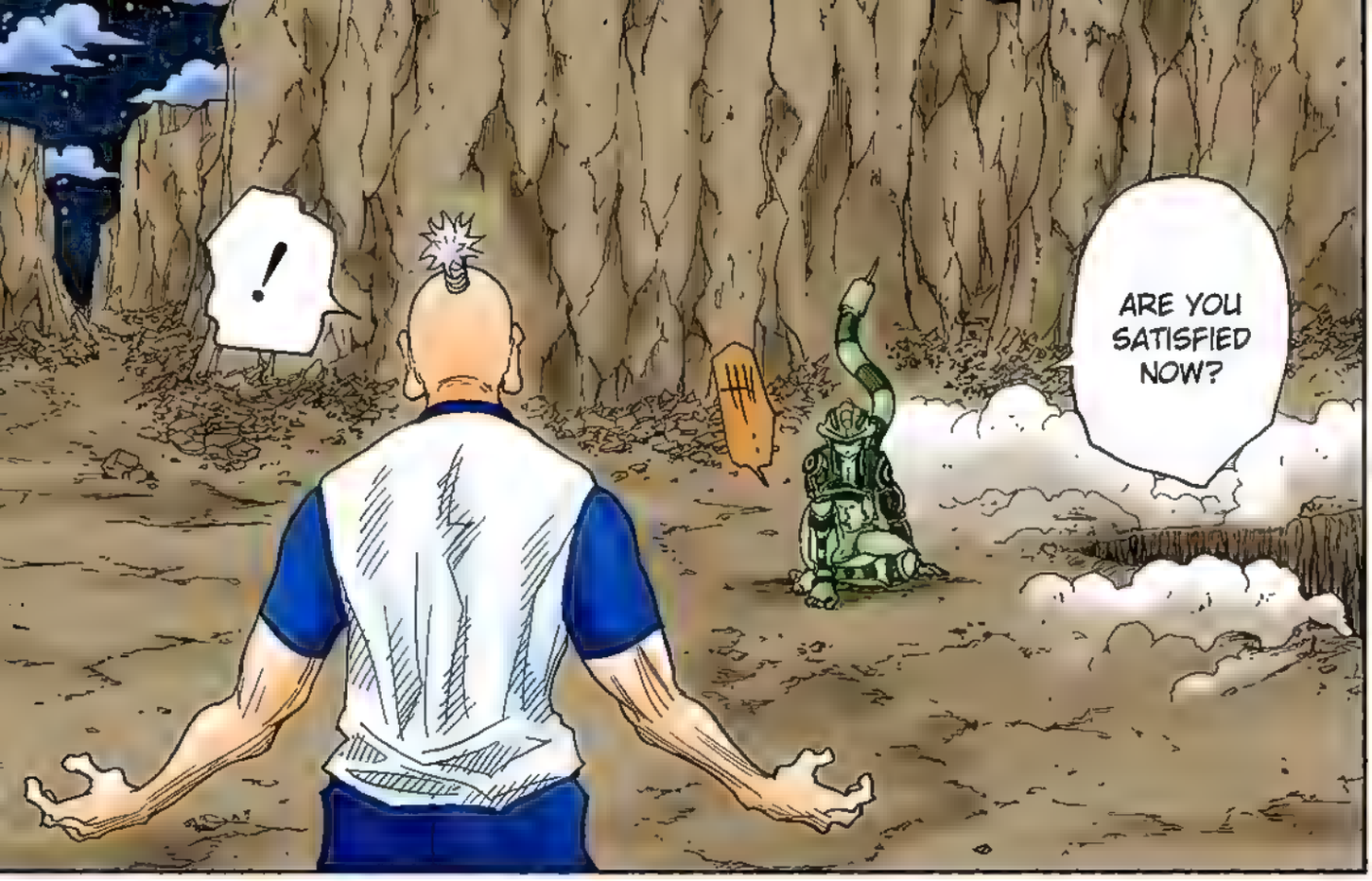
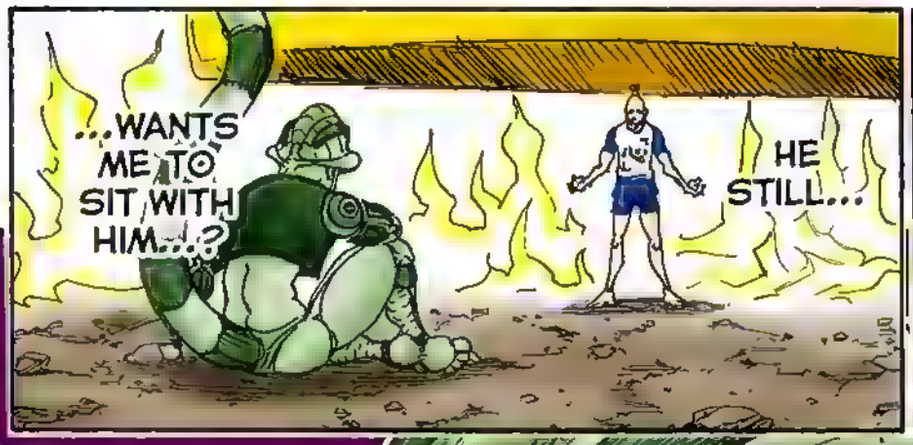
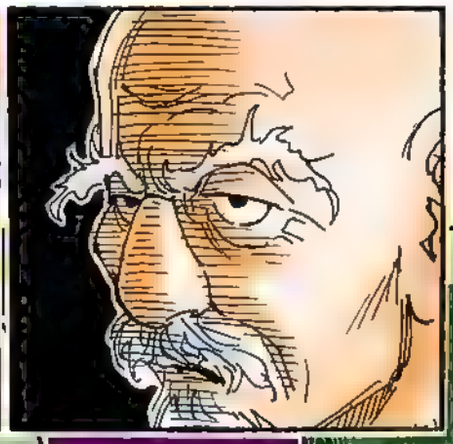
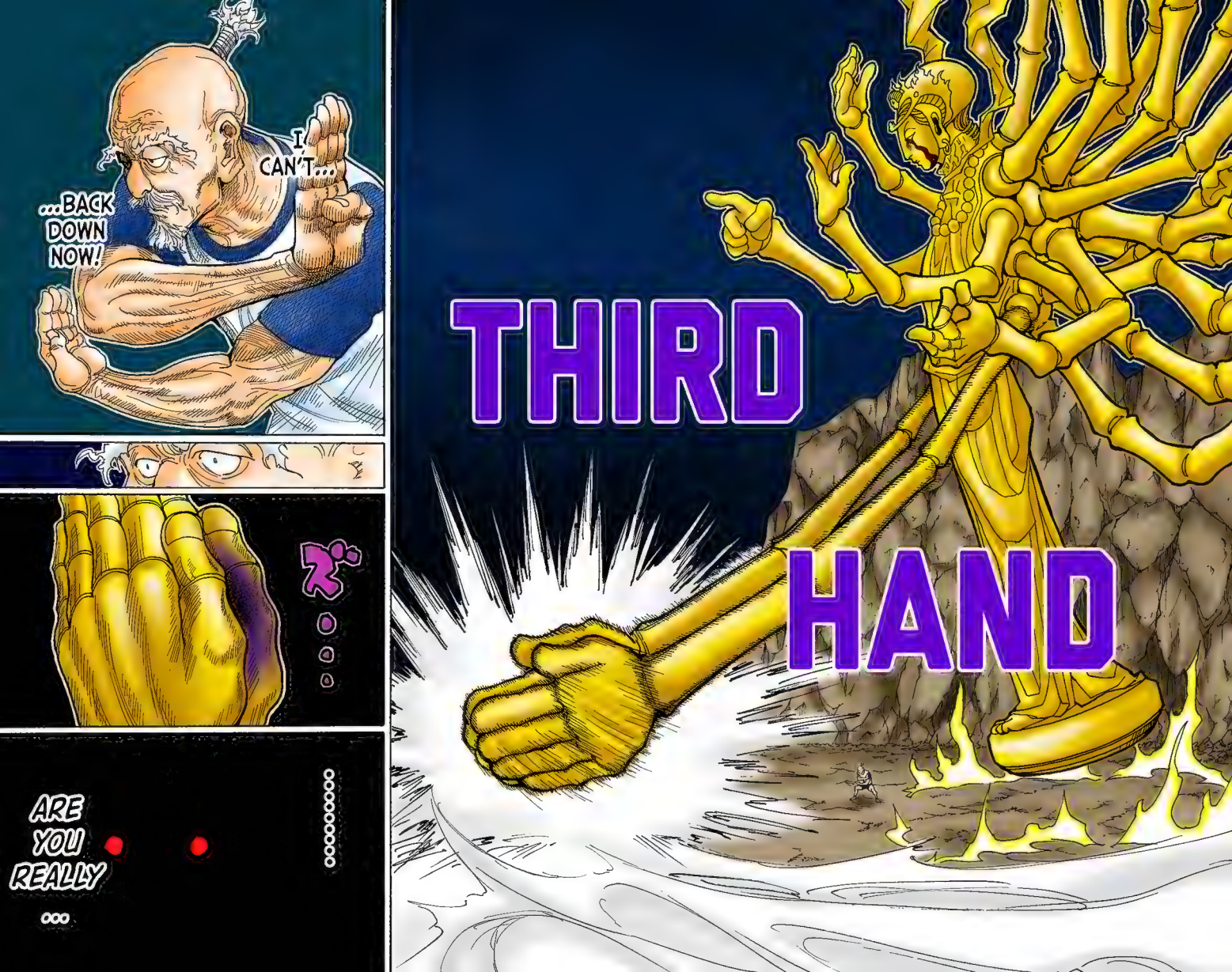

HE'S TOUGH ...!!
I'M SURE THAT WAS A DIRECT HIT...
PEW
A GOOD ATTACK.
I DID NOT ANTICIPATE IT.

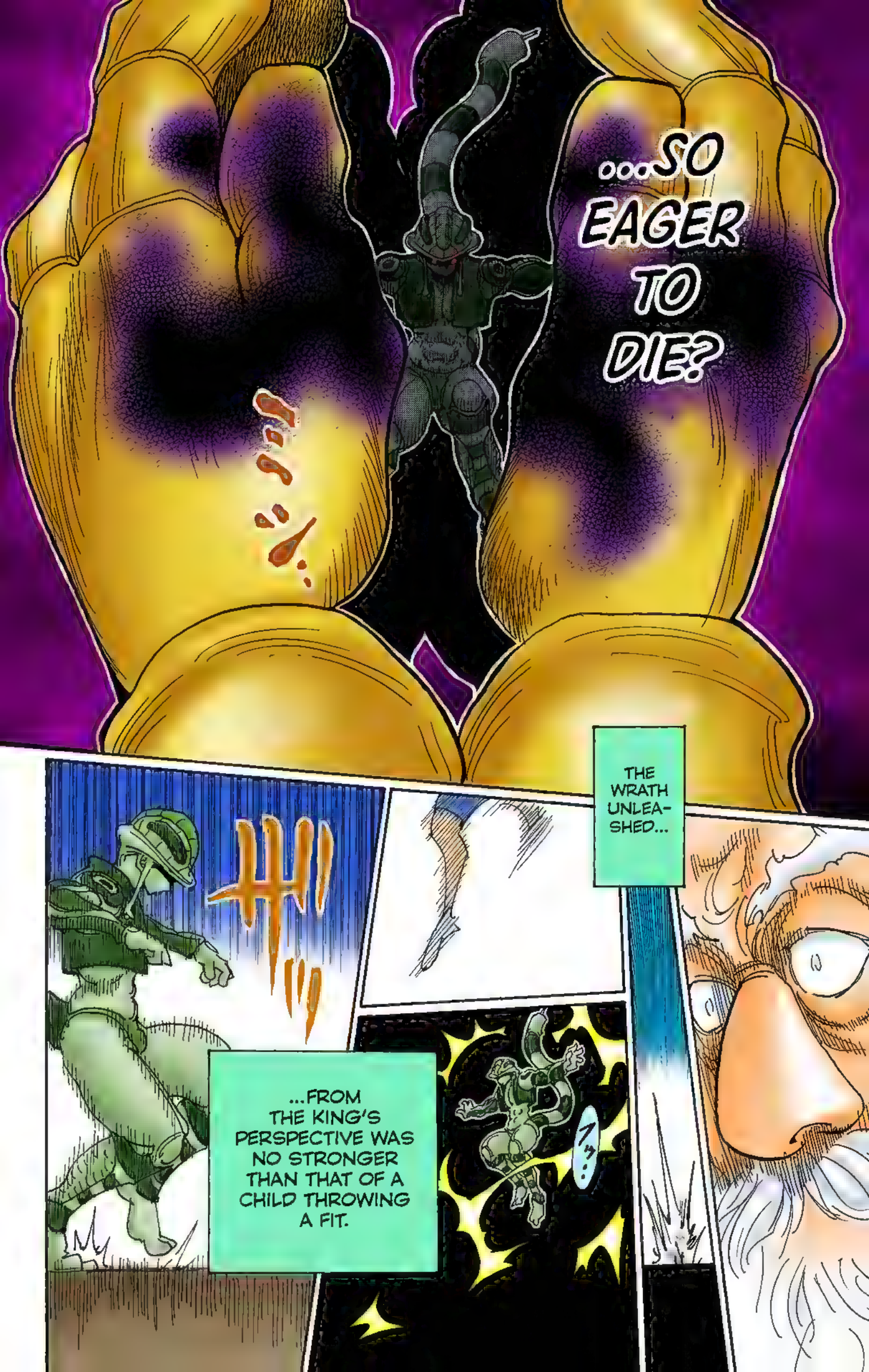

!
ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW?


...WANTS ME TO SIT WITH HIM...?
HE STILL...



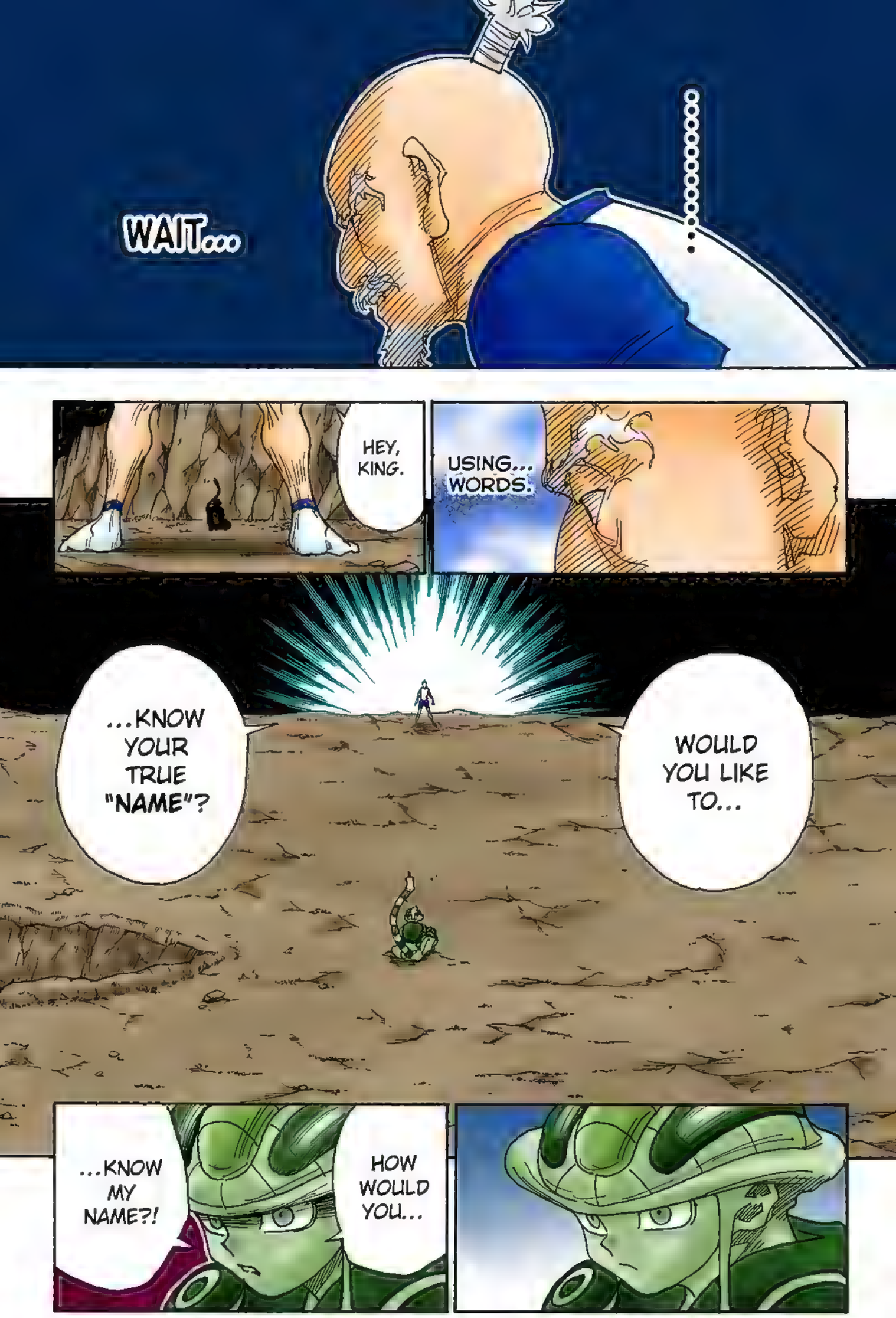
...REPEAT MYSELF.
I WILL NOT...

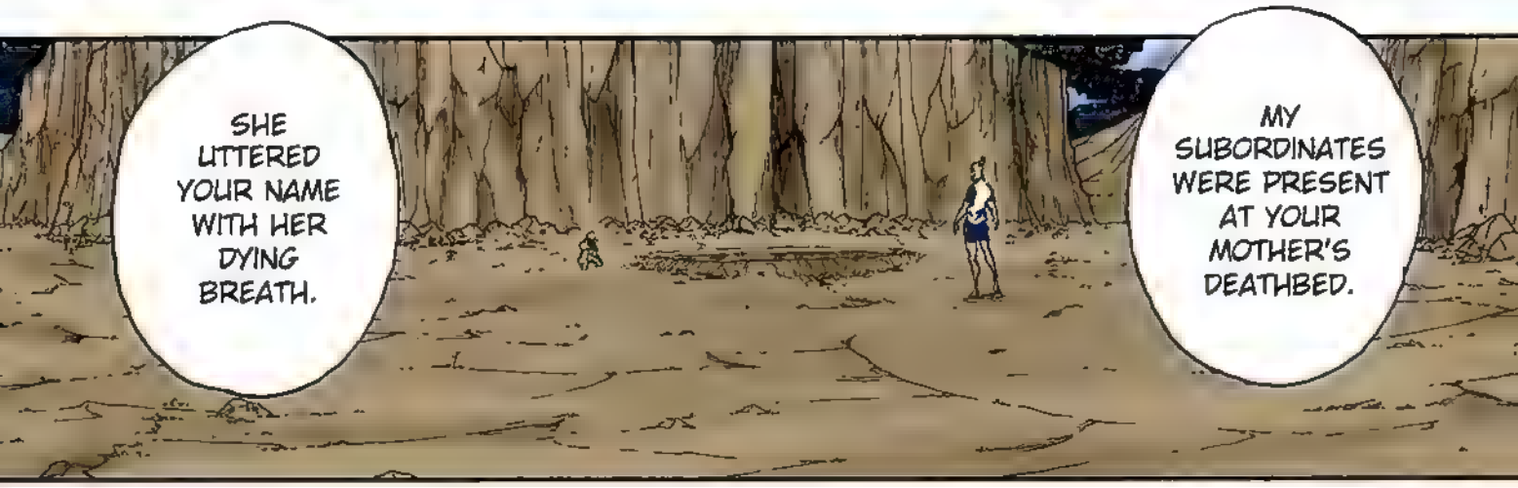

...BACK DOWN NOW!
I CAN'T...
ARE YOU REALLY ...
THIRD HAND

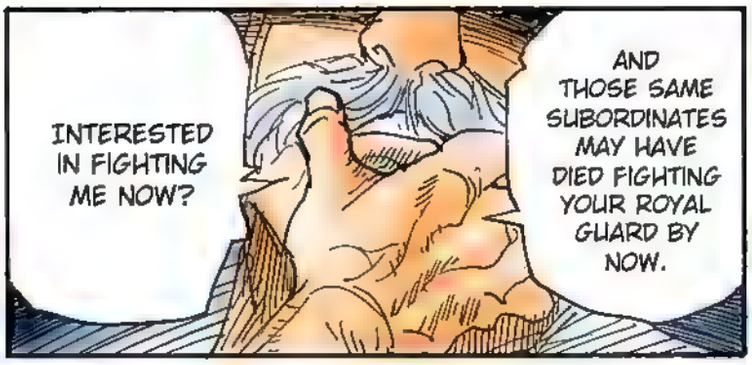

...SO EAGER TO DIE?
THE WRATH UNLEA-SHED...
...FROM THE KING'S PERSPECTIVE WAS NO STRONGER THAN THAT OF A CHILD THROWING A FIT.

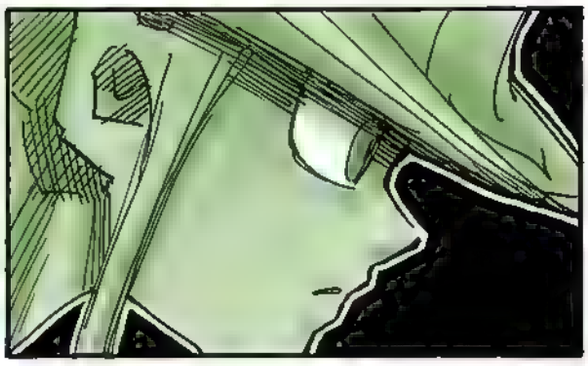
...MORE THAN TWICE HIS USUAL DISTANCE.
BUT IT WAS VIOLENT ENOUGH TO MAKE NETERO JUMP BACK...
...HIS DETER-MINATION WAS BRUSHED OFF SO CASUALLY.
NETERO FELT INSULTED THAT...
WAKE UP.

...ARE WORDS.
THE ONLY THINGS YOU AND I WILL EXCHANGE...
...NEW-BORN BRAT.
DAMNED...
...I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO THIS!!!
IF IT WERE THAT SIMPLE...


WAIT...
.....
HEY, KING.
USING... WORDS.
...KNOW YOUR TRUE "NAME"?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO...
...KNOW MY NAME?!
HOW WOULD YOU...


SHE UTTERED YOUR NAME WITH HER DYING BREATH.
MY SUBORDINATES WERE PRESENT AT YOUR MOTHER'S DEATHBED.


INTERESTED IN FIGHTING ME NOW?
AND THOSE SAME SUBORDINATES MAY HAVE DIED FIGHTING YOUR ROYAL GUARD BY NOW.



...I'M WILLING TO TELL YOU YOUR NAME.
IF YOU CAN FORCE ME TO ADMIT DEFEAT...

SO I'LL BE PLAYING WITHOUT A "ROOK AND BISHOP."
ゴ ゴ ゴ
FORCE YOU TO ADMIT DEFEAT WITHOUT KILLING YOU...
サッ
NO MATTER.
I SHALL CHECKMATE YOU SHORTLY.
オオオオオオ

Digital color version
HUNTER×HUNTER
Volume 27

Yoshihiro Togashi
®POT (Yoshihiro Togashi) 2008

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YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

We
had A
Second
Child.
Oh yes.
The Kid's
One year
Older
Already.
Oh yes.

●週刊少年ジャンプ・H20年45号～H21年2号掲載分収録

背表紙・カバー折り返し

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JUMP COMICS

HUNTER × HUNTER

NO.27▶名前

Yoshihiro Togashi

本体・表紙

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